Hafa Adai!

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

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INSIDE

10 Years Later

A grim picture emerges as the U.S. and NATO mark 10 years of war in Afghanistan.

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SVES students read over 44,000 books last year. PAGE 7

ONCE USCIS FINALIZES PROCEDURES

No exit needed for those with pending INA visa applications

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is now considering allowing individuals with pending H1B, R-1, or L-1 visa applications to remain in the CNMI while their application is being processed if they apply for and are granted parole-in-place. They could also be allowed to continue working in the CNMI while their application is pending if they are granted an authorization for employment document, or AED.

RELATED NEWS

- Benefits for widow/widower of a deceased US citizen. **PAGE 9**

See NO EXIT on Page 4

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Northern Marianas College nursing student Brittany Concepcion administers the flu vaccine on Aging Center congregate Kimo Jordan at the conference room yesterday morning. The student volunteers, along with the Department of Public Health Immunization Program staff, brought 100 vaccines to accommodate the center's congregates, trainees, and staff as part of the "Bee Wise Immunize" campaign.

Keep students' shots up-to-date or they could face 'suspension'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Health is calling on parents to keep their children's vaccination shots up to date, as the Immunization Program plans to begin implementing a law that would allow the "suspension" of students who are found noncompliant with the law.

Citing the importance of immunization, Jeremy T. Sasamoto said yesterday that all students in public or private schools "have to be up to date with their shots."

Sasamoto said a majority of the public are not aware of Public Law 6-10, which requires parents to keep their children's shots up to date.

He said parents will receive a notification of delinquency if their children do not have up-to-date shots, adding that these parents will "have two weeks to take action."

"If not, their child can be suspended from school until all shots are up to

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RELATED NEWS

- *Man'amko* help kick off flu shots campaign in NMI. **PAGE 6**

CONTACT INFO

- To get immunized, call 236-8745

It's final: Blue Water Homes will not be at Tamat Beach

» Jones shares insights on CNMI economic development

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Triple J Enterprises founder and Blue Water Homes LLC managing partner Robert "Bob" Jones told Saipan Chamber of Commerce members and guests yesterday that the $30-million Blue Water Homes project will no longer be built

See FINAL on Page 4

Local

‘Only repeal or TRO can convince Wilshire to stay’

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund’s investment consultant will only stick around under two conditions: the repeal of the Beneficiaries Derivative Act or the issuance of a temporary restraining order to prevent its enforcement.

Maggie Ralbovsky, Wilshire Consulting Inc.’s principal, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that these two circumstances could convince them to stay and help manage the dwindling assets of the Commonwealth’s troubled pension program.

Wilshire, the Fund’s investment consultant since October 2010, decided to end its services with the Fund effective Oct. 8, following the enactment of Public Law 17-51 or the Beneficiaries’ Derivative Act last month, fearing it will result in a deluge of lawsuits against itself and the Fund. That law allows retirees to sue if the board refuses to do so.

“Wilshire’s services to the Fund will end on Friday, unless the law is repealed or otherwise restrained in the next three days. If the judge issues a preliminary injunction before Friday, we may consider staying on until December to assist with the transition to a new consultant if one can be found,” Ralbovsky said.

The Fund’s board of trustees, in an emergency meeting on Tuesday, voted to put out an ad for a new investment consultant and an actuary.

The Fund’s previous actuary, Buck Consultants, had also terminated its services for the same reason.

The entry of a new investment consultant—if one is selected—could also result in changes to the strategy that Wilshire had earlier mapped out to effectively manage the Fund’s diminishing assets, Ralbovsky said.

Wilshire had recommended using a glide path strategy, which calls for the creation of an asset allocation model that becomes more conservative (i.e., includes more fixed-income assets and fewer equities) the closer the Fund gets to a target date. The Fund board has already approved this approach.

“We cannot tell if a new consultant can be contracted nor whether the new consultant will continue the strategy if one can be retained,” Ralbovsky said, adding that at this stage in the Fund’s life, glide path is the most prudent approach to protect the Fund’s remaining assets as it takes limited risks.

She said the glide path strategy was able to protect the Fund’s assets during extreme downturns in September, for example. As of last week, the Fund’s investment portfolio was valued at $266 million.

With six money managers terminating their contracts with the Fund, Wilshire is recommending investing the liquidated assets in mutual funds.

“Investing in mutual funds is a mechanism to continue implementing the glide path strategy under the circumstances. Using mutual funds for this strategy is less optimal than the original plan,” she said.

WAITING
Adults and children wait for their turn to get their food stamp outside the Nutrition Assistance Program office in As Lito Monday noon. As of June, there were close to 10,000 individuals relying on food stamps, a number that keeps on growing because of a continuously worsening economy that leaves many with pay cuts and unemployment.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Woman in fake credit cards case gets 15-month sentence

The federal court has slapped a 15-month prison sentence against a woman who was arrested on Saipan on charges of visiting Guam for the sole purpose of using fake credit cards there to buy luxury items.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona ordered Wing Yee Tse to spend a total of 15 months in prison for two counts of access device fraud and two counts of misuse of immigration document.

Tse was given credit for the 151 days she was in federal custody. Manglona ruled, though, that the time Tse served in her separate Superior Court case would not be counted as time served for the federal case.

Tse was directed to pay $19,466 in restitution in full and immediately after sentencing. If restitution is not immediately paid, Tse shall participate in the Inmate Financial Responsibility Program administered by the Bureau of Prison, Manglona said.

Tse was also required to pay a $400 special assessment fee.

After serving her sentence, Tse will be placed on one year of supervised release. Among the conditions of her release is that she will be turned over to an immigration official for deportation proceedings and will be required to perform 100 hours of community service.

Tse had pleaded guilty to the charges as part of a plea deal.

Tse, a Chinese national, traveled to Guam beginning Sept. 26, 2010, and used counterfeit and stolen credit cards to buy items at high-end shops such as Louis Vuitton, Chanel, Cartier, Rolex, Lin’s Jewelry, and elsewhere.

Tse used, among others, a Diner’s Club credit card issued to W. Y. Tse and an American Express credit card issued to Wing Yen Tse, for these purchases.

The total value of purchased items was estimated at $20,000. She also tried to purchase Gucci items valued at about $6,000.

Tse entered Guam as a tourist under the Guam Visa Waiver Program. She stated she has not been arrested nor convicted of any crime, despite knowing that she had been previously convicted in Hong Kong for possession of dangerous drugs.

Police first arrested Tse on Saipan in November 2010 after a Louis Vuitton staff in Garapan discovered a misuse of credit cards involving the defendant. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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DPL says Senate resolution on public lands board 'moot'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The CNMI government has not been complying with a 2006 law that requires the creation of a five-member Public Lands Advisory Board that is supposed to be making recommendations to the Department of Public Lands secretary on the approval of public land leases involving more than 5 hectares.

This is according to a Senate resolution that senators adopted yesterday.

But Department of Public Lands Secretary Oscar M. Babauta, in an interview last night, said the Senate resolution is "moot" because that law's provision requiring a Public Lands Advisory Board was later amended to abolish the board.

Babauta, a former speaker, said he would be more than willing to clarify this matter with the Senate.

Sen. Juan Ayuyu (Ind-Rota) said that since the enactment of Public Law 15-2, DPL has been operating under the sole discretion of the DPL secretary without the benefit of a Public Lands Advisory Board.

He said the DPL secretary has recommended approval of public land leases, worked on a public land use plan, and developed homestead programs without any recommendation or consultation from a board as the law requires.

To initiate compliance with the law, Ayuyu introduced a resolution yesterday that urges the mayors of Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands to appoint a member to the Public Lands Advisory Board, and the municipal councils of each respective senatorial district to act on such appointments.

Babauta

Senators adopted Ayuyu's Senate Resolution 17-69, Senate Draft 1. That amendment was offered by Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota).

Of the five members of the board, one should come from Saipan, one from Tinian, one from Rota, and one from the Northern Islands. The fifth member shall be a Commonwealth resident selected by the governor.

The board's responsibilities include recommending approval of public land leases involving more than 5 hectares of public land, approving a comprehensive public land use plan for the CNMI, and consulting with the DPL secretary on homestead programs.

At yesterday's session, senators adopted Manglona's offered amendment seeking to ensure that the Senate will not approve public land leases involving more than 5 hectares of public land "unless the Public Land Advisory Board is given an opportunity to review and make a recommendation on the proposed public land lease."

"DPL's mandates regarding public lands in the CNMI are a monumental task and should be implemented by the Secretary in consultation with a Public Lands Advisory Board," the resolution says.

But the DPL secretary reiterated that PL 15-2, which established DPL, was later amended to abolish the advisory board. DPL's predecessor, the Marianas Public Lands Authority, had a board of directors.

Liaison between minor and 18-year-old referred to DPS, DYS

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The alleged romantic relationship between a 16-year-old female student of Kagman High School and an 18-year-old male, himself a former student, has roused school officials, who have reported the matter to police and the Division of Youth Services.

Saipan Tribune learned that the two began "dating" last school year when they were still 15 and 17 years old and were both enrolled at the school. This continued this school year and KHS found out that the guy, now 18 years old, has been regularly visiting and delivering food to the minor inside the campus.

Sources disclosed that KHS became alarmed when some employees approached and sought the school officials' help.

KHS principal Alfred S. Ada confirmed yesterday the involvement of the minor student with the 18-year-old. However, he dispelled rumors about rape being involved.

Besides the police and DYS, Ada said the matter was also referred to the office of Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan and the Public School System legal counsel.

The Education Board adopted early this year a new policy on child abuse reporting that mandates all PSS employees who knows or has reasonable cause to suspect that child abuse has occurred or will occur, to report that knowledge. It requires the reporting to police and proper authorities within 24 hours.

"We are mandated by law to report [child abuse]…and because this situation involves an adult constantly 'dating' a minor, we want to make sure that we alerted the proper authorities. Our goal here is to protect our students from any degree of abuses," Ada told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Ada said the parents of the female minor were also told about the situation and "we're not happy" upon learning about it.

Ada disclosed that the male adult is now barred from entering the campus and prohibited from making any contact with the female student. KHS, for its part, is counseling the female student and has placed her under "full watch."

If the investigation yields "probable cause" of abuse, Ada said the case may be turned over to the state level.

IN POLICE BRUTALITY LAWSUIT

'No proof that ex-cop's illegal acts were due to DPS training'

A man who filed a police brutality lawsuit against the Department of Public Safety and a former police officer has alleged no facts that the officer's illegal act was the result of any DPS training policy, so the case should be dismissed, according to the Office of the Attorney General.

In DPS' memorandum in support of motion to dismiss, assistant attorney general David Lochabay asserted that Jin Dong Wang has shown no facts to indicate that DPS was deliberately indifferent to civil rights in its training programs.

Lochabay said that Wang's allegations of excessive use of force are not actionable under the due process clause because he never became a pretrial detainee.

Citing precedent 9th Circuit ruling, the government lawyer said the due process protections of the 14th Amendment do not support an excessive force claim until one becomes a pretrial detainee.

"Because the facts indicate that [Wang] had not been charged with a crime at the time the alleged incident occurred, there can be no basis for a due process claim," Lochabay said, adding that Wang's claims against DPS are fatally defective and the court should dismiss them.

Wang, through counsel Robert J. O'Connor, is suing former police officer Jesse Dubrall for assault and battery, false arrest, emotional distress, violation of civil rights, and negligence.

Wang, a Chinese national, is also suing DPS and former police chief Santiago Tudela for negligence and violation of civil rights. He is demanding at least $100,000 in damages and a court injunction directing DPS to implement procedures to prevent the use of excessive force, and assault of arrested persons in the future.

Wang alleged that Dubrall hit him with a gun's butt and repeatedly kicked him after mistaking him for another person that police were trying to arrest. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Senate confirms 2 Fitial appointees to CDA board

The Senate confirmed yesterday two of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's appointees to serve on the Commonwealth Development Authority's board of directors, paving the way for CDA board to act on important projects.

During a session, senators confirmed Tom Glen Quitugua and Edwin P. Aldan to serve on the CDA board.

Quitugua represents Rota on the board, and his term will expire on April 21, 2015.

Aldan, representing Tinian, will serve Nathan Quichocho's remaining term on the CDA board that will expire on July 8, 2014.

After senators confirmed the two, Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) wrote a letter to he governor of the Senate's decision.

"Upon review of the nominations, the Senate is confident that they will carry out their responsibilities with distinction and to the best of their abilities," Manglona told the governor. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

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PSS eyes $10M aid from Title I grants in 2013

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Commonwealth public schools may get about $10 million yearly in federal assistance from the U.S. Department of Education's Title I grant beginning fiscal year 2013, according to Public School System finance director Richard Waldo.

That is if PSS succeeds in complying with all requirements and mandates of the grant program, which include, among others, proof that all classrooms are staffed with highly qualified personnel who are equipped with the necessary trainings, accreditation of all schools, and consistently good performance of schools.

If this happens, the Commonwealth will be the first territory to avail of these federal monies, Waldo said.

"We're hoping to be under Title I grant in 2013. If that happens, PSS will be provided $10 million yearly—a substantial amount that could help us alleviate the challenges in our local monies," Waldo told *Saipan Tribune*, describing the Title I funds as the "long-term" solution to PSS' budgetary constraints.

PSS will get just $30 million in local appropriation this fiscal year, covering personnel costs, operational costs, and utilities.

Citing the next 12-month period as "tough times" for the system, Waldo said that President Barrack Obama's Jobs Act, which is pending in Congress, may serve as a short-term solution to local schools' budget needs.

The American Jobs Act will provide money to help keep 280,000 teachers on the job nationwide and modernize at least 35,000 public schools, focusing on those most in need. The proposed Act will also pump $50 billion into highways and other transportation infrastructure and $5 billion into upgrading community colleges.

Waldo could not immediately say how much funding may be made available to CNMI schools under this Act.

PSS has 1,157 employees, of which 900 are locally funded. The system spends an average of $1.2 million pay payroll for personnel's salaries.

"We're hoping these federal monies go through because it will save PSS in its short- and long-term goals," he said.

Federal monies are not the only ones that can help PSS pay for operational costs and utilities. Waldo said that each school receives funding from Individual Assistance Plan of the federal government and they will use their individual accounts for operations while fundraisers are also expected to assist with their immediate needs such toiletries and office supplies.

FINAL

From Page 1

at the Tamat Beach area in Chalan Piao because of probate issues.

"That beach will not be used," Jones told Chamber members and guests at Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio.

He said Blue Water Homes is now looking at three other sites, two of which have issues related to Article 12 of the CNMI Constitution, which restricts landownership to people of Northern Marianas descent.

As of yesterday, Jones said he could not disclose the location of the three properties they are looking at.

Blue Water Homes is the second affordable housing project that applied for and was approved under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Low Income Housing Tax Credit program.

The $30-million project involves the construction of 80 two-, three-, and four-bedroom units in a 98-foot building, originally planned to be built south of Chalan Kanoa Beach Club.

But some 16 landowners and heirs around the project area belonging to the Tamat-Cabrera clan are opposed to the Blue Water Homes, citing the "social consequences" resulting from such kind of massive development. They said they are not anti-development but support controlled development.

Jones, in an interview with reporters, said any time there's economic development such as construction of affordable homes for 80 families, there may be some people inconvenienced by it.

"But you have to decide whether you want to go on with the development or not. If you do, then you try to inconvenience as few people as you possibly can," he said.

As it turns out, Blue Water Homes won't be built at the Tamat Beach area anyway because one of the landowners died and there is an ongoing probate. Jones said it would take months to have this issue addressed, and could hold back the project so they're looking at three other sites.

Jones, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's 2010 Businessperson of the Year, also spoke about his take on the CNMI's economic development, including looking for ways to create jobs for people.

Jones was one of two guest speakers at the Chamber's monthly meeting yesterday at Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio. The other speaker was U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services district director David Gulick.

Only through job creation can the CNMI economy move forward, Jones said.

He said people can always blame somebody for the economy—the federal government, the administration, the Legislature—but that would not accomplish anything.

He encouraged businesses to take the lead in creating jobs, whether for five people or 100 people.

Jones cited Triple J's decision to buy restaurants, build a supermarket, and build Sandy Beach Homes despite a down economy, to create job opportunities for the CNMI people.

He said as of today, for example, there are some 217 individuals working at their Sandy Beach Homes construction project, and some 25 percent to 30 percent more are employed indirectly because of this project.

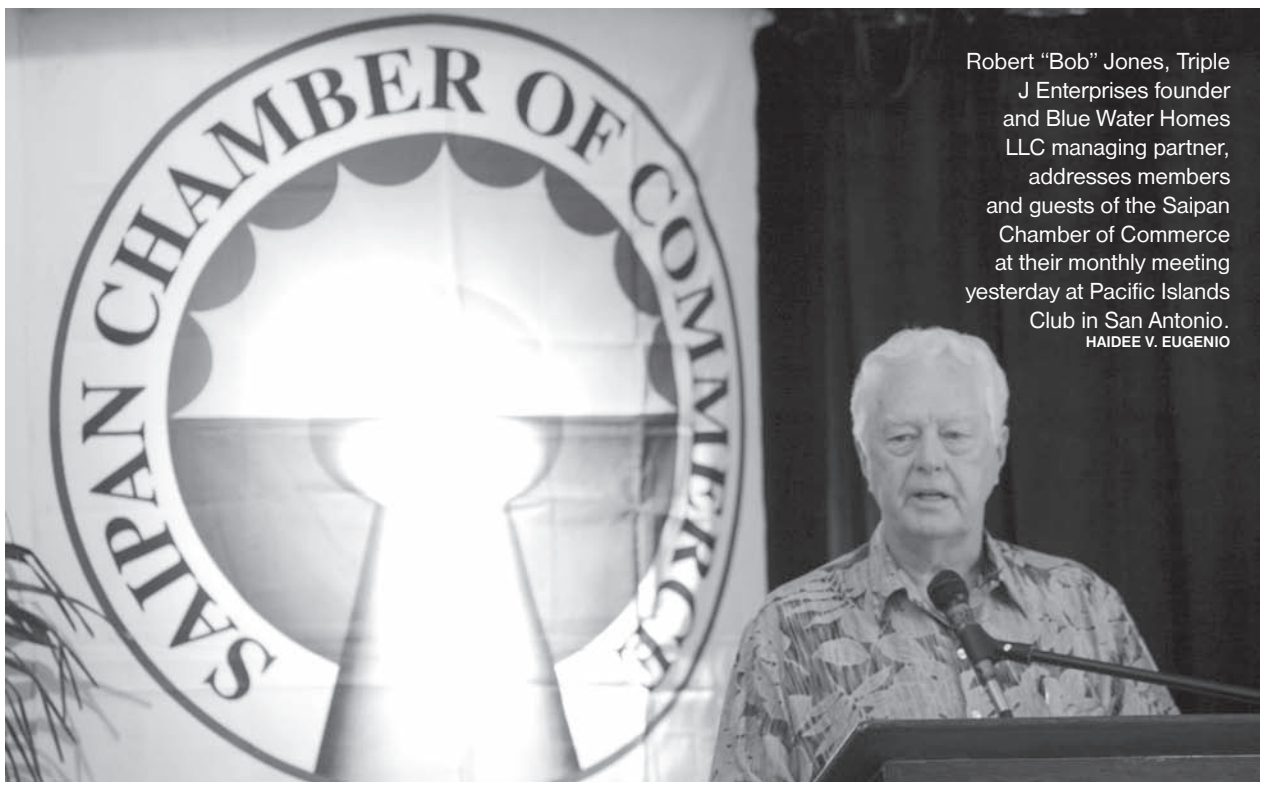
In his presentation, Jones talked about the eco-friendly features of Sandy Beach Homes—from Energy Start appliances to solar hot water systems.

Douglas Brennan, president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, said in his message to members that there is no silver bullet that will magically transform the CNMI economy.

"What is missing on the Saipan economic landscape right now is consistency and a sense of direction. …We live on one of the most amazing places on earth. What are we going to do to maintain the pristine nature of our land, beaches, reefs, and surrounding oceans while building a sustainable economic foundation and maintaining the cultural heritage of the islands?" he asked.

Brennan, general manager of Microl Corp., cited Chena Power owner Bernie Karl, from Alaska, who recently visited Saipan at the invitation of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial.

Brennan said Karl keyed in on two major points that hit home. First was the need for the CNMI to be able to feed itself in the event of a global disaster. Second was cost-effective energy. In 2006, Karl installed a geothermal power system at the resort he owns in Alaska and earned additional green credentials.



Robert "Bob" Jones, Triple J Enterprises founder and Blue Water Homes LLC managing partner, addresses members and guests of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce at their monthly meeting yesterday at Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

NO EXIT

From Page 1

USCIS district director David Gulick said during yesterday's Saipan Chamber of Commerce membership meeting that the procedures for this are still being finalized.

Once this plan is finalized, it will provide relief to those with pending applications who would otherwise need to exit the CNMI if their applications have yet to be adjudicated by Nov. 27.

USCIS officials previously said during outreach sessions on the final worker rule that those with H1B, L-1, or R-1 applications still pending by Nov. 27, 2011, and do not have valid parole or status will need to exit the CNMI. They may only return when their petition is granted.

And even if some of these individuals have valid parole to remain in the CNMI, they cannot be allowed to work in the CNMI while their application is still pending.

USCIS has come up with a better plan to allay the concerns of employers and employees with pending H1B, R-1, or L-1 visa applications.

Chamber members and guests said the announcement of USCIS' plan will help ensure that the operations of organizations with H1B, L-1, or R-1 applications will not be interrupted.

"The general overview is we will give them parole. They [also] have to apply for AED; otherwise, how can they work?" Gulick said in an interview later.

Requiring an AED is something new, to allow those with pending H1B applications to continue working while their applications are still pending. USCIS also considered providing the same procedures for religious workers seeking R-1 visa and those seeking L-1 visa (intra-company transferees).

The idea, said Gulick, is for a applicant to apply for parole-in-place and AED at the same time.

Those with pending Commonwealth-only worker status by Nov. 27 can continue to remain and work in the CNMI beyond that date while their CW application is still pending.

Douglas Brennan, president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, thanked Gulick and the rest of the USCIS team for conducting several public outreach sessions of the final rule governing foreign workers in the CNMI.

Gulick and his team did over 40 public outreach sessions attended by some 4,000 individuals on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Gulick said were it not for the support and funding assistance of the USCIS director and their headquarters in Washington, D.C., they wouldn't be able to do as much as they did in the CNMI about the CW rule.

During his presentation, Gulick also said that they have so far received some 700 requests for extension of parole.

USCIS encourages people to visit the following websites for more information about the CW rule: www.uscis.gov/cnmi, www.uscis.gov/cw, and www.youtube.com/user/uscis. To speak to someone in person, visit www.uscis.gov and make an InfoPass appointment.

STUDENTS

From Page 1

date," said Sasamoto at the flu shot event at the Aging Center.

These vaccination shots, based on the CNMI Recommended Immunization Schedule, are:

- Hepatitis B at birth;
- DTaP, E-IPV, Hib, PCV13, Rotavirus, and Hepatitis B for children 2 months old;
- DTaP, E-IPV, PCV13, and Rotavirus at 4 months;
- DTap, E-IPV, Hib, PCV13, Rotavirus, and Hepatitis B at 6 months;
- MMR, and Varicella or Chicken Pox at 12 months;
- DTap, PCV-13, and Hib for 15-18 months;
- DTaP, E-IPV, MMR, Hepatitis A, and Varicella at 4 to 6 years old; and
- DTap, MCV, and Hepatitis A at 11 to 18 years.

Sasamoto disclosed that they will start their educational outreach campaign about the need for immunization starting Wednesday next week.

He said they will begin the outreach at the Public School System's Head Start Centers once they get the roster. If not, then they will start with elementary schools on island.

"We will start enforcing the law beginning November," added Sasamoto.

The program manager noted that their office "will provide the additional shots at schools for their convenience" if a child is not up to date with the required shots.

According to Sasamoto, there is "a lot of misinformation" circulating that causes parents not to get their children immunized with certain vaccines.

For example, there are those who believe that the MMR vaccine is related to autism, based on a study conducted by Dr. Andrew Wakefield that "caused worldwide scare."

Sasamoto, however, dismissed this, saying that the research study was later discovered to be fraudulent.

Another example is a "preservative" believed to be added to the MMR vaccine and linked to autism.

"But that preservative hasn't been used since 1995 and there is no scientific evidence that shows its link to autism," explained Sasamoto.

He emphasized that "vaccines are safe and cost-effective."

With the start of their flu vaccination campaign, Sasamoto said they will be handing out consent forms to parents for their children to get the flu shots.

Attached to the consent form is the letter regarding the law and the need to have the students' shots be kept up to date.

To get your child immunized or for more information, call 236-8745.

Man in burglary, theft case is found not guilty

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Superior Court jury yesterday afternoon found Ronald R. Kaipat not guilty of charges relating to the theft of typhoon shutters from a gasoline station's storage room in San Jose in January this year.

After less than four hours of deliberation, the jurors unanimously acquitted Kaipat of burglary and theft charges.

"Very good!" a smiling Kaipat said when reporters asked him for comments as he emerged from the courtroom.

Defense attorney Douglas Cushnie said the jurors did a "a good job," listening intently to the testimonies and coming out "with the right decision."

Assistant attorney general Tiberius Mocanu expressed disappointment with the verdict but said they are thankful to the witnesses who were brave enough to testify.

He said the Office of the Attorney General will continue to aggressively prosecute burglary and theft cases, which are becoming an epidemic in the Commonwealth.

Mocanu was assisted by assistant attorney general Nicole Driscoll in the Kaipat trial.

Associate judge David A. Wiseman presided over the case that began Monday. The following day, Tuesday, the prosecution rested its case.

During trial, Kaipat's co-defendant Daniel D. Delos Santos, who has already pleaded guilty and is now serving time, testified for the defense, saying his companion was another male minor and not Kaipat.

A government's witness had testified Monday that he recognized Kaipat and Delos Santos as the two persons who burglarized the storage room of the Mobil gas station and stole the typhoon shutters in the early morning on Jan. 23, 2011.

The witness said he saw Kaipat and Delos Santos from the window of his apartment, located near the storage room. He then led a responding police officer to the homes of the suspects.

Police recovered 30 pieces of the stolen shutters stacked on a wooden table at the back portion of Modern Stationary.

Police officers arrested Delos Santos at his residence in San Jose, while Kaipat was picked up near the former Morgan's Building.

Delos Santos pleaded guilty and has been serving an 18-month year jail term.

Former CIB chief testifies in retrial of Cepeda

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A retired police captain who was the chief of the Department of Public Safety's Criminal Investigation Bureau when a businessman was murdered inside a karaoke bar in San Jose in 1999 took the witness stand yesterday in the ongoing retrial of Franklin Cabrera Cepeda Jr.

As CIB head back in 2000, former captain Delbert Sablan said that he was involved in the investigation of Jeffrey Deleon Guerrero, the first one charged in the case who was later acquitted.

Sablan said that he retired in 2001 so when investigators identified Cepeda and George Ilo as suspects in 2003, he was no longer involved in the investigation.

During questioning by defense attorney Colin Thompson, Sablan said that based on his personal experience, having lived in the San Jose area, he concluded that Deleon Guerrero was "a person of interest" in the murder of Rong Zhou.

He said his personal experience was corroborated by information he gathered from residents in the area.

Sablan said he learned that Deleon Guerrero had threatened the victim and was always borrowing money from him.

Sablan said he also saw Deleon Guerrero going upstairs leading to the Yellow House Karaoke just before the murder occurred.

During cross-examination by assistant attorney general Russell Lorfing, Sablan said he met with former detective Christopher Leon Guerrero in preparation for Cepeda's trial. Leon Guerrero is serving as the defense's case investigator.

Officer Cepeda testified that he was present at a photo lineup arranged by then detective Mark Taisakan. He said he served as a Mandarin translator for a Chinese witness.

Officer Cepeda said that six photos of individuals, including that of Jeffrey Deleon Guerrero, were used in the phone lineup to see if the witness could identify persons seen at the crime scene.

He said the witness identified Jeffrey Deleon Guerrero, who was number six in the lineup, as being at the crime scene.

However, during cross-examination, officer Cepeda agreed that Jeffrey Deleon Guerrero looks similar to Franklin Cepeda's co-defendant, George Ilo. He said that Jeffrey Deleon Guerrero is very substantially similar to Ilo.

Ilo has already pleaded guilty in the case as part of a plea deal. He testified for the government and identified Franklin Cepeda as his companion when they killed Zhou, also known as Matthew, at the Yellow House on March 1, 1999.

Officer Cepeda also agreed with the prosecutor that Franklin Cepeda's picture was not included in the photo lineup.

The OAG first charged Jeffrey Deleon Guerrero with the murder of Zhou, but he was later acquitted.

The OAG then charged Franklin Cepeda and Ilo. In January 2005, the jury found Franklin Cepeda guilty of first-degree murder, robbery, aggravated assault and battery, assault with a dangerous weapon, and conspiracy. He was sentenced to 66 years in prison.

Franklin Cepeda, however, prevailed in his appeal. The CNMI Supreme Court vacated his convictions and ordered a new trial.

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Man'amko help kick off flu shots campaign in the CNMI

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Congregates at the Aging Center, along with Aging Office trainees and staff, got their flu shots yesterday with the Department of Public Health's launch of its "Bee Wise Immunize" campaign to fight the spread of the influenza virus.

DPH Immunization Program manager Jeremy T. Sasamoto, immunization response coordinator Gloria Ramon, staff nurse Laurina Boyer, and community outreach worker Jeffrey Sablan were joined by Northern Marianas College nursing instructor Hervin Jacinto and freshman students Brittany Concepcion, Vachinaporn Ngainwong-Bagby, Nisha Shrestha, Wanda Sotomayor, and Carina Train in administering the vaccines at the center.

Boyer said the immunization team brought 100 vaccines for the congregates, trainees, and staff.

Those who got their flu shots were required to fill out or answer the patient encounter form, submit to a temperature and blood pressure check, and were asked if they are allergic to eggs.

Felisa Basa, who was the first to line up for the immunization event held at the conference room, said that she got her last flu shot also through the same event last year.

"Every year, I have to take it. I don't want to lose it [the opportunity to get a flu shot]," Basa, 81, told *Saipan Tribune*.

Since she is scared of needles, Basa opted for the injection on her back. "I don't want to see the needle so I wanted it on my back," she explained.

Kimo Jordan, who was also among the earliest to fall in line for the shot, said he also had flu shot last year. "It been effective so far."

Sasamoto said that they launched this year's immunization campaign at the Aging Center since the *man'amko* are among the priority groups for the flu vaccine. Other priority groups are children, pregnant women, first responders, and those with compromised immune systems.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Nursing student Nisha Shrestha, left, of the Northern Marianas College checks the blood pressure of Felisa Basa before administering the flu vaccine to the 81-year old Aging Center congregate at the conference room yesterday morning. The Department of Public Health Immunization Program launched its "Bee Wise Immunize" campaign among the island's elderly, a priority group in administering the vaccine that helps fight the spread of influenza virus.

"They [*man'amko*] are among our priority groups so we decided to launch it here. Because of their advanced age, they are more susceptible to flu," he explained.

Sasamoto disclosed that the DPH Immunization Program has already received 16,000 of the 19,500 flu shots they ordered from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, using the over $1 million funding they got to purchase vaccines.

The remaining flu shots, he said, are expected to arrive within the week. Sasamoto added that they may also receive an additional 6,000 flu shots from the Department of Defense.

"After that, we'll target the general public. But if they want the flu shots, they can go to the immunization clinic anytime. No appointment is needed," said Sasamoto.

Sasamoto said that administering the flu shots now is timely since the flu season is from October to December, with last year's statistics showing that there were on average 30 flu patients every week from January to October.

In November 2010, however, Sasamoto said there was a flu outbreak in the CNMI as the number of flu patients at the Commonwealth Health Center peaked at 123.

"We had a flu outbreak and we don't want that happening this year. We are catching it early now," said Sasamoto, adding that they hope to use all flu shots "before the end of December."

According to Sasamoto, CHC has been averaging approximately 14 flu patients per week since August. "For this year, we're good. We're really low."

Sasamoto emphasized that one way to prevent the spread of the influenza virus is to "always wash their hands."

"It's a simple thing but it helps," he said. "When sneezing, sneeze on your sleeves or tissue but never on your hands because it spreads the flu that way."

Aging director Rose Mondala said the immunization program is vital for senior citizens like her. "It's very important that we get our flu shots once a year. When you're a *man'amko* and you get a flu, it's harder. So it's really important that we get everyone vaccinated, including the staff."

CNMI's Aging State Plan OK'd

The CNMI's Four-Year State Plan on Aging for fiscal year 2012-2015 submitted in July to the Administration on Aging under the Department of Health & Human Services has already been approved, according to Aging director Rose Mondala.

Mondala confirmed the approval on Tuesday, saying that the notice recently came from the AoA Washington office.

"It's a big plus for us. You got to make sure that the state plan gets approved," said Mondala.

The State Plan provides direction for the development of a comprehensive and coordinated system of home- and community-based services that allow senior citizens and older persons with physical disabilities in the CNMI to continue to live in their homes and communities.

Based on the State Plan, the Aging Office aims to preserve the close-knit family values for the elderly within their nuclear and extended families.

"The islands take pride in their elderly staying with their families despite their old age as they become the source of wisdom and are role models to perpetuate the island culture for the younger generations," according to the state plan. ***(Clarissa V. David)***

3 NMC students awarded $5.5K scholarship grants

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Officials of First Hawaiian Bank, *Guam Business Magazine*, and the Northern Marianas College flank Jatanna Sherise Cabrera and Marie Luise Del Carmen, two of the three recipients of the Businesswoman of the Year Award scholarship program in an awarding ceremony at the First Hawaiian Bank Gualo Rai branch yesterday. The third recipient, Keneisha Parks, was unable to make it to the ceremony and was represented by her mother Lydia.

The Businesswoman of the Year Award program of the First Hawaiian Bank and *Guam Business Magazine* awarded yesterday $5,490 worth of scholarships to three students of the Northern Marianas College on Saipan.

Jatanna Sherise Cabrera, Marie Luise Del Carmen, and Keneisha Parks were awarded the scholarships based on their total number of credit hours enrolled in the fall semester, grades, community involvement, and "potential to become successful businesspeople."

The three were among the seven beneficiaries from Guam and Saipan who are pursuing degrees at NMC, Guam Community College, and the University of Guam.

The scholarships were presented to the three NMC students in a ceremony held at the First Hawaiian Bank Gualo Rai branch.

During the presentation, First Hawaiian Bank president and chief operating officer Bob Harrison emphasized the importance of education, adding that they're "very happy" to support students from Saipan and Guam in their pursuit of higher learning.

Johnnie Fong, president of the TransPacific Group of Companies that publishes *Guam Business Magazine*, said that the Businesswoman of the Year Award program also honors women who have contributed to the community.

"We hope that our Businesswoman of the Year program will honor one of our scholarship recipients in the future," said Fong.

Barbara Merfalen, NMC dean of Academic Programs and Services, who represented college president Sharon Hart at the ceremony, thanked the scholarship program's officials for the opportunity they have given to the three students to further their education at the local college.

Lydia Parks, Keneisha's mother, attended the presentation on behalf of her daughter who was in school.

She said Keneisha, who's taking up minor classes for now, will use her $1,830 scholarship to pursue a degree in accounting and follow her mom's footsteps.

Del Carmen, 18, said this was the first scholarship she has ever applied for. "I feel so accomplished, something I've never felt before. I thank them for this opportunity," said the business management major.

Cabrera, a freshman accounting student, said she feels "very honored" to have been chosen as one of the recipients of the scholarship. "The scholarship is a very good opportunity for students who are majoring in the business field. I strongly recommend that they apply for it," said Cabrera, 18.

A similar presentation was also held for scholarship recipients from Guam at the First Hawaiian Bank Tamuning Branch on Tuesday. They are Carmelita Reyes of Guam Community College; Ione Skye Llagas, Audre Rae McAuslen, and Maryanne Pascua of UOG.

Laura-Lynn V. Dacanay, First Hawaiian Bank senior vice president and region manager for Guam and CNMI, said the scholarship program is "a tool for [students] to further themselves in their career" and enable them to "give back to the community.

"We believe that education is the foundation for them to build themselves up in that regard," said Dacanay. "We're very proud to be able to sponsor that."

Dacanay disclosed that there were 10 applicants who applied for the scholarship.

For 2011, the 6th year of the program, Dacanay said between $25,000 to $28,000 was raised to fund scholarships for the fall and spring semesters.

"We still have funds remaining for the spring semester so other students can apply for it," she said.

SVES students read over 44,000 books last year

Students at San Vicente Elementary School read 44,881 books last year, adding up to over 232 million words read! What's more, the students passed comprehension quizzes on each and every one of the books read!

One student, Kiana Reyes, read 4,225,115 words by herself. An outstanding class from last year was Ms. Bobbie Aguon's, which read 3,827 books. That's an average of over 200 books per student. Ms. Rose Reyes' class was the word count champ, with her class alone reading over 20 million words last year. How many words did you read last year?

The students are taking part in a program called Accelerated Reader. Students borrow books at their reading level, read them, and then take a computerized quiz that checks for understanding of the book. The program keeps track of how many quizzes each student takes and passes. The Canaries hope to break the 50,000 mark by the end of this school year.

This program is helping SVES students reach their goal of having all students read on level, according to the school's librarian, Rick Gramlich.

"The students really enjoy AR, as we call it. They or their teachers can set goals, read books at their reading level, and watch their point totals and reading levels grow. This program is actually helping our students perform better in all subjects. When they are reading interesting books that they have chosen, they will read faster to find out what happens. This leads to faster decoding of the words. Decoding faster helps them in other subjects because they won't have to slowly trudge through the textbooks. Another great thing about this program is that it gives quantified data for students, classes, and the whole school. Some schools have 'read-a-thons' that count the books or pages read according to what the student or parents say were read. Our Canaries have to pass standardized quizzes that check for comprehension of the whole book," said Gramlich.

SVES has been lucky to have administrators who value the library and appropriate $10,000 to $15,000 in federal grant money each year to order around 1,000 new books. The library has more books than any other elementary library in the CNMI.

Gramlich sums it up thus: "At SVES we understand that we need the newest, hottest titles to compete with TV, video games, and the Internet. Reading is the foundation for most learning, so the investment is worth it. Our students have already read 2,500 books in three weeks. In fact, they have read almost 15 million words already this year. How many have you read?" ***(PR)***

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Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan, center, with Tan Siu Lin Foundation manager Edward Arriola Jr., right, present a $5,000 check to American Red Cross-NMI Chapter representatives at the TSL Building Wednesday, to be used during one of its major fundraisers, Club 200. Funds raised from the event assist the NMI community during times of disaster, help train people in lifesaving skills, and provide support to the men and women of the Armed Forces. Also in the photo are JD Tenorio, left, Teresa Kim, second from left, and Jerold Facey, second from right, of ARC.

FIGHT! magazine features PXC

BARRIGADA, Guam—After successfully hosting over 24 professional events in Guam and recently launching PXC in the Philippines, Guam-born mixed martial arts company Pacific X-treme Combat has secured coverage in *FIGHT!*, the most respected and influential magazine in mixed martial arts.

According to E.J. Calvo, PXC general manager and promoter who was interviewed for the article, *FIGHT!* did a good job on the article, and PXC hopes to continue providing content to them and other publications worldwide.

"PXC established itself as a leading martial arts event in Guam and has now branched out into the Philippines," says Calvo. "It is evident through the live television coverage in

the Philippines that PXC has instantly become the country's top MMA show with about 300,000 viewers during the August event. Now with the spread in *FIGHT!* magazine, PXC has established itself in the Asia Pacific region as one of the top MMA companies. Now is the time to turn the spotlight on our homegrown athletes who are putting Guam on the map."

FIGHT! magazine is published monthly with over 60,000 copies circulated with 10,000 in paid subscriptions and 50,000 in newsstand distribution.

It was first published in 2007 and *FIGHT!* can be found online at www.fightmagazine.com or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FIGHTMagazine with over 25,000 fans.

Upcoming PXC events include PXC 27 on Oct. 29 at the University of Guam Field House in Guam and PXC 28 on Nov. 26 in Manila, the Philippines. ***(PR)***

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Dog tag registration in Dandan

The dog tag registration is being held at the Dandan fire station from Oct. 3 to 13 (closed Fridays). However, beginning Monday, Oct. 10, the dog tag registration will also be available at the Saipan Mayor's Office in Afetna. ***(PR)***

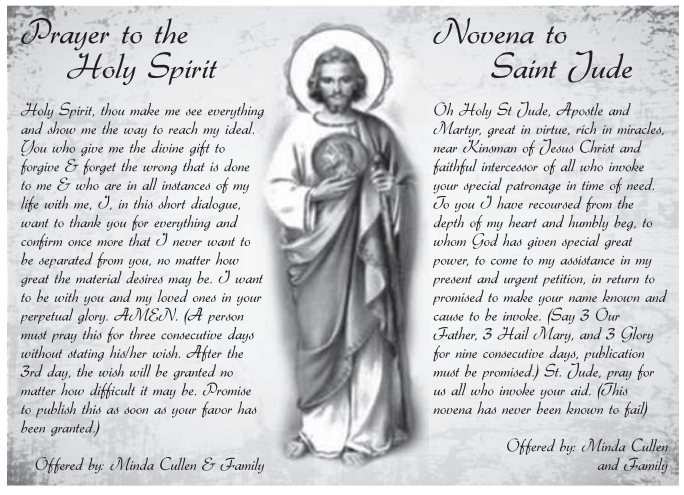
KCC offers online language learning service

The Korean Cultural Center-Mariana Islands is providing Korean Language Society services. This method can be a kind of online service, so-called "ubiquitous learning," and is a very effective and convenient way of learning, said center president Daniel Huh. "Many working students have difficulty in finding enough time to come to the classrooms due to their tight schedule. This is one of the reasons we decided to develop a new type of service." Students can receive various materials and free question-and-answer services. All you have to do is to send a self-introductory letter to kccmarianas@gmail.com.

The center has been providing Korean language school and culture class programs at several places since 2009. Contact (670)285-2221, 256-2221 or kccmarianas@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

MVA membership meeting set

The Marianas Visitors Authority will have its general membership meeting on Oct. 11, at 10am at Fiesta Resort & Spa. The guest speakers will be Mufi Hannemann, former mayor of Honolulu, speaking on "Building a Stronger Tourism Community," and Lynn Knight of Management Analysis Inc., who will provide an update on the new NMI Tourism Master Plan scheduled for completion this year. ***(PR)***


Prayer to the Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit, thou make me see everything and show me the way to reach my ideal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive & forget the wrong that is done to me & who are in all instances of my life with me, I, in this short dialogue, want to thank you for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from you, no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with you and my loved ones in your perpetual glory. AMEN. (A person must pray this for three consecutive days without stating his/her wish. After the 3rd day, the wish will be granted no matter how difficult it may be. Promise to publish this as soon as your favor has been granted.)
Offered by: Minda Cullen & Family
Novena to Saint Jude
Oh Holy St Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue, rich in miracles, near Kinsman of Jesus Christ and faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need. To you I have recoursed from the depth of my heart and humbly beg, to whom God has given special great power, to come to my assistance in my present and urgent petition, in return to promised to make your name known and cause to be invoke. (Say 3 Our Father, 3 Hail Mary, and 3 Glory for nine consecutive days, publication must be promised.) St. Jude, pray for us all who invoke your aid. (This novena has never been known to fail)
Offered by: Minda Cullen and Family

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP11-DCCA/CCDF-130

SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 31, 2011 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR CCDF LICENSE-EXEMPT FAMILY HOME CARE PROVIDERS FOR THE DCCA CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND PROGRAM"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFIC EOF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON **OCTOBER 19, 2011 AT 10:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME**, AT THE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY'S CONFERENCE ROOM LOCATED AT LOWER BASE DRIVE, SAIPAN.

THIS PROJECT IS FUNDED IN WHOLE FROM THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) OF 2009. THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/S/ MELVIN L.O. FAISAO
SECRETARY OF DC&CA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

JESSE R. BABAUTA, Petitioner,	]	**FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 11 - 0270**
vs.	]	
SHEN YING JIANG BABAUTA Respondent,	]	**SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you k, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 2616 Chalan Kanoa Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 13th day of September, 2011

/s/ Clerk of Court

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NELLY DLC. BUMANGLAG, Plaintiff,	]	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 00-275**
-v-	]	**FOURTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE**
LINDA DLC. TOVES, CONSOLATION DLC. TOVES, ANA C. DELA CRUZ, ANTONIO C. DELA CRUZ, RAMON C. DELA CRUZ, JOSEPHINE P. DELA CRUZ, and the Estate of MANUEL T. DELA CRUZ, deceased Defendants.	]	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a Judgment issued by the Court in this matter on January 26, 2009, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Tract No. 21729, situated in I-Denni, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 46,660 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2038/72, registered with the Land Registry as Document No. 7912, dated January 23, 1979.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Wednesday, November 2, 2011, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale. The minimum acceptable bid is $30,000.00.

DATED, this 28th day of September, 2011:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

EPA, DEQ work to contain oil from power plants

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Division of Environmental Quality, with cooperation from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., are engaged in a project to recover oil and prevent seeping of the oil into the Tanapag Lagoon. This oil comes from the CUC's power plants 1 and 2 in Lower Base. EPA will collect and treat soil and groundwater contaminated with petroleum products. The fuel contamination is the result of chronic releases from CUC power plant operations and has the ability to impact the marine environment in the vicinity of the power plant.

Fuel spills at power plants 1 and 2 have resulted in an underground plume of oil seeping into Tanapag Lagoon in the area of the Seaplane ramp. Actions are currently being taken by both CUC and EPA to address the causes of the problems and the resulting contamination of soil and groundwater. CUC is engaged in a comprehensive effort to inspect, repair, and clean aboveground tanks and replace the CUC pipeline under EPA oversight. EPA is addressing the oil that has leaked into the soil, groundwater and ocean.

EPA activities

EPA and its contractors will be installing an interceptor trench system along the shoreline between the CUC power plants 1 and 2 and Tanapag Lagoon. This trench will provide protection for the marine waters by catching and recovering oil that is seeping toward the Lagoon. This interceptor trench is on the Commonwealth Ports Authority property in the area between the Seaplane Ramp and the CUC power plant. Inside the facility, EPA will install oil recovery trenches and sumps to collect oil from the ground. During the oil recovery process, EPA will capture, treat, and release groundwater that has been contaminated by the fuel spills. A treatment system has been built by EPA that will treat this water so that it is clean enough to put back into the ground.

In order to install the trenches and address areas with heavy oil contamination in soils, EPA will excavate petroleum-contaminated soil. The excavated soil will be taken to a bioremediation treatment cell for contaminated soils. This system is being set up on an adjacent property. The treatment will use microbes already in the soils and additional nutrients to break down the petroleum in the soil over time. The treatment cell has a liner beneath it, is surrounded by a berm and will also be covered to prevent any material from leaving the area during the treatment phase. The treatment is expected to last approximately six to nine months.

How the community can help

During the construction of the protection or interceptor trench, public access to this area will be restricted. We ask that people do not park in or near the path of the heavy equipment. Work areas will be surrounded by orange fencing and "Keep Out" signs to keep people and cars away from heavy equipment and work areas. Also, please keep your children away from these areas. Areas, which will be used by heavy equipment, will be marked with "No Parking" signs. We understand that some of these areas are fishing areas or places where you may be used to parking your vehicles. During the next few months of construction, please find alternate places to fish and park your cars. These areas will reopen once the work is completed and they are safe to access.

In addition, the area around the bio-treatment cell will have a lot of activity, with trucks going in and out. This area is the old Department of Public Works yard in Lower Base, where the Aggreko generators were located. Please be careful of the trucks, and do not park in the way of the entrances to the old DPW Yard. Heavy equipment and trucks must be able to conduct work and bring materials into the soil treatment area. There may be some odors coming from the soil treatment area as the microbes break down the petroleum in the soil. These odors are likely from the sewage sludge that will be used to feed the microbes and encourage biological activity and are not harmful.

It is essential that everyone cooperate so the project gets done quickly and safely. It is our intention to complete this work with as little impact on the community as possible. We appreciate your cooperation and support as we work to protect Saipan's marine environment.

The trenching and excavation portion of this EPA work should be completed by the end of November. Treatment of soil and water will be ongoing for some time. ***(EPA)***

D&Q DONATES TO CHARITIES

D&Q makes donations to two worthwhile charities this week. D&Q employees are shown here with representatives of the Guma Esperanza shelter with food donations. Other photo shows D&Q employee Ron Omengebar with Salvation Army ministry leader Wayne Gillespie, also with D&Q food donations. "We are happy to be able to regularly assist local charities. As we head toward the holiday season we hope to be able to make more donations," D&Q said in a statement.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to Carmina Angela Ogarto Eugenio, who is celebrating her special day today, Oct, 6. You've been a great sister, sister-in-law, daughter-in-law, and an awesome mother. I am loading this newspaper full of birthday wishes, hugs that squeeze, and a bunch of kisses! Happy birthday, Niao! We love you! Greetings come from EJ, MJ, Keonna, and the San Nicolas family. Have a great one!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 6, 1999

DLNR runs out of plant vouchers

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources yesterday said it has run out of plant vouchers with the deluge of requests for free vouchers for a plant of their choice. According to Public Information Officer Marianne C. Teregeyo, some 150 vouchers were issued this year and divided for distribution among DLNR, Division of Agriculture and the Division of Parks and Grounds. She said the vouchers were divided among the three offices for easy access and convenience to the general public. The three agencies were pleased with the overwhelming response of the public who were enthusiastic in receiving the free vouchers in exchange for a plant in participating island nurseries.

EPA to assist NMI in dealing with Y2K woes

The Environmental Protection Agency is considering extending emergency assistance to the Northern Marianas in the event that the Y2K computer glitch creates environmental problems. Different government agencies and businesses in the CNMI have upgraded their computer system to be Y2K compliant. EPA seeks to determine the type of assistance the CNMI might need so it could provide the appropriate response, according to William M. Robberson, member of EPA's regional response team. "We are trying to decide what kind of help you will need, if any at all. If there is high confidence that there won't be any problems, then we will be comfortable that we won't have to respond at all to any chemical spill," he said.

Oct. 6, 2000

DPH: Do not eat land crabs in Tanapag

The Department of Public Health yesterday asked the people to refrain from eating land crabs caught in Tanapag area as a precautionary measure after preliminary sampling results showed that five land crabs had detectable levels of polychlorinated biphenyl. DPH Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez said the PCB levels in the land crabs are below the standard established by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for fish. "These detectable levels, however, do approach the more conservative guidelines of U.S. EPA,"he added. The preliminary land crab consumption advisory issued by DPH was based on very limited and preliminary sampling results on land crabs caught in Tanapag village, in and around the vicinity of Cemetery 2, by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

NMHC gets US nod for 20 mortgage insurance slots

In what could be a major push to the CNMI government's housing program, the Commonwealth Development Authority has successfully negotiated for at least 20 mortgage insurance slots with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. The 20 slots secured from the HUD represents a significant improvement in comparison to the initial implementation of the program in the Northern Marianas when only one home mortgage insurance was issued by a local bank. The Memorandum of Agreement between the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation and the U.S. government's HUD for the mortgage insurance slots is expected to be formalized within the year.

Oct. 6, 2002

Veto seen in bill 'correcting' PL 13-1

The measure that intends to correct the flaws identified in Public Law 13-1 has a distinct possibility of running into a brick wall. Acting Gov. Diego T. Benavente said that, although he hasn't had the chance yet to discuss the matter with Gov. Juan N. Babauta, he believes that the Babauta administration remains opposed to the intent of the measure, which means that they may veto the bill. "I haven't had the chance to speak to the Governor about it but, in my discussion with the Legislature-both the House [of Representatives] and the Senate-I've informed them of our objection to the intent or position of House Bill 13-126 and I don't believe that that has changed. At this point, our position is that we may more than likely veto House Bill 13-126," said Benavente.

Tinian Dynasty ordered to pay workers $591K in back wages

Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino will pay $591,535.02 in back wages to settle charges filed by the U.S. Department of Labor that the company violated the overtime provisions of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act. A consent judgment resolving the lawsuit was signed by Northern Marianas U.S. District Court Judge Alex R. Munson on September 30. Under the terms of the judgment, Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investment, Ltd., doing business as Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino, and its lead principal, agreed to pay overtime wages for the period February 6, 1999 through February 9, 2001.

If you are a widow or widower of a U.S. citizen in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services wants you to be aware that you may be able to obtain your green card under U.S. immigration law.

Benefits for widow/widower of a deceased US citizen

» Widow(ers) must apply by Oct. 28, 2011, if spouse died before Oct. 28, 2009

Widow(er)s of citizens who died before Oct. 28, 2009, but who did not have a Form I-130 Petition for Alien Relative pending on Oct. 28, 2009, have until Oct. 28, 2011, to file a Form I-360 Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er) or Special Immigrant, for themselves and their unmarried minor children. A widow(er) whose citizen spouse died on or after Oct. 28, 2009 will have two years from the date of the citizen spouse's death to file their Form I-360.

If your spouse filed the I-130 or Form I-485 Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status for you before he or she died, see www.uscis.gov for details. If not, you will have to file an I-360 petition. Remember to do this before Oct. 28, 2011, if your spouse died before Oct. 28, 2009; otherwise you will no longer be eligible.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Introduction

On Oct. 28, 2009, the President signed the fiscal year 2010 DHS Appropriations Act into law, allowing eligible widows or widowers of U.S. citizens to qualify for permanent resident status regardless of how long the couple was married. The new law amends the Immigration and Nationality Act by removing the two-year marriage requirement previously necessary for a widow(er) to qualify for permanent resident status as an immediate relative of his or her late U.S. citizen spouse. When a widow(er) qualifies as an immediate relative under the law, his or her unmarried minor children qualify for the same status. The law applies equally to widow(er)s living abroad who are seeking immigrant visas and widow(er)s in the United States who want to become permanent residents based on their marriage.

These provisions of the FY2010 DHS Appropriations Act relate only to the impact of the citizen's death on a widow(er)'s eligibility for classification as an immediate relative. All other requirements for approval of a visa petition remain in force. Specifically, the widow(er) must still establish that:

- He or she was the citizen's legal spouse.
- The marriage was bona fide and not an arrangement solely to confer immigration benefits to the beneficiary.
- He or she has not remarried.
- He or she is admissible as an immigrant.
- In an adjustment of status case, he or she meets all other adjustment eligibility requirements and merits a favorable exercise of discretion.

Widow(er)s Without Pending Cases

Widow(er)s of U.S. citizens who died before Oct. 28, 2009, and who did not have a Form I-130 pending on Oct. 28, 2009, have until Oct. 28, 2011, to file a Form I-360 for themselves and their unmarried minor children. A widow(er) whose citizen spouse died on or after Oct. 28, 2009, will have two years from the date of the citizen spouse's death to file their Form I-360.

Children of Widow(er)s

The child of a widow(er) whose Form I-360 is approved may be included in the widow(er)'s petition as long as they meet the definition for "child" under the INA.

Application Process

To obtain a green card, you need to file Form I-360 with all required documents as listed in the form instructions. If your spouse filed Form I-130 before his or her death, we will consider the petition as if you had filed an I-360.

If You Live in the United States

You may file Form I-485 either at the same time you file your Form I-360 or after you file Form I-360, whether it is pending or approved. If you already filed Form I-485 based on the petition filed by your spouse, USCIS will continue to process this application and you do not need to file another one.

If You Live Outside of the United States

Your approved petition will be forwarded overseas to the U.S. embassy or consulate that has jurisdiction over where you live. For more information, see the "Consular Processing" link under "Green Card Processes & Procedures" on the USCIS website.

Supporting Evidence for the Form I-485

You should submit the following evidence/documentation with your application:

- Two passport-style photos;
- Form G-325A, Biographic Information (if between the ages of 14 through 79);
- Copy of your birth certificate;
- Copy of your passport page with nonimmigrant visa (if applicable);
- Copy of passport page with admission (entry) or parole stamp (if applicable);
- Form I-94, Arrival/Departure Record (if applicable);
- Form I-693, Report of Medical Examination and Vaccination Record;
- Form I-130 receipt notice or approval letter (Form I-797), if applicable; or
- Form I-360 with all required documents, if filing at the same time with Form I-485;
- Form I-360 receipt notice or approval letter (Form I-797) (if not filing concurrently).

Medical Examination

You will need to undergo a medical exam to be eligible for adjustment as an immediate relative. To locate a civil surgeon near you, see the "Find a Medical Doctor" at www.uscis.gov.

Children of Widow(er) of a U.S. Citizen

Your unmarried children under the age of 21 (known as "derivatives") may be included on your immigration petition.

As "immediate relatives," your derivative children are granted benefits of the Child Status Protection Act, which "freezes" their ages as of the date of the principal's filing of Form I-130 or I-360, whichever is applicable. This provision prevents them from aging-out if they turn 21 prior to adjudication of their adjustment of status or visa application. They must, however, continue to meet any other additional filing requirements. For more information on the Child Status Protection Act, see "Green Card Processes & Procedures" on the USCIS website.

Work & Travel Authorization

Generally, when you have a pending Form I-485, it is possible for you to apply for authorization to work in the United States and to seek advance parole (advance permission to travel and be admitted to the United States upon your return). For further information, see the "Work Authorization" and "Travel Documents" links under "Green Card Processes & Procedures."

Q&A

Q. If my U.S. citizen spouse has passed away, and I do not have a petition pending with USCIS, how do I obtain status as a widow(er)?

A. If your U.S. citizen spouse died on or after Oct. 28, 2009, you will have two years from the date of the citizen spouse's death to file a Form I-360 petition. If your U.S. citizen spouse died before Oct. 28, 2009, and you did not have a Form I-130 pending on Oct. 28, 2009, you have until Oct. 28, 2011, to file a Form I-360 for you and your unmarried minor children.

Q. Where do I file the Form I-360?

A. USCIS requires that applicants who are submitting a Form I-360 as a widow(er) must file the form with the Vermont Service Center along with the supporting evidence and fees specified in the Form I-360 instructions. The Form I-360 and filing instructions can be found at the USCIS website, under the "Forms" tab or at www.uscis.gov/forms.

Q. If I have a pending I-130 and qualify as an immediate relative, how do I find out if my petition has converted to a widow(er)'s I-360?

A. Your Form I-130 will automatically convert to a widow(er)'s Form I-360. USCIS will adjudicate your converted I-360 and notify you with a decision. If your case has been the subject of litigation in any Federal court on the issue of the effect of the petitioner's death on your Form I-130, you will receive notification from USCIS that the Form I-130 has been reopened.

Q. As a widow(er) of a U.S. citizen, am I required to submit a Form I-864, Affidavit of Support?

A. No. Under the INA, a widow(er) of a citizen and his or her accompanying children are not required to submit Form I-864, Affidavit of Support.

Q. Are the children of my deceased U.S. citizen spouse covered under this new law?

A. Your spouse's children may already be U.S. citizens if they were born in the United States or were born abroad but obtained citizenship by birth or naturalization. If your spouse's children are not citizens, then whether they can be included on your converted Form I-360 depends on whether they are your children as well. Generally, your stepchildren through marriage to the U.S. citizen would be considered your children and covered, as long as your marriage took place when the child was younger than age 18. If those children did not already derive U.S. citizenship through your deceased spouse at birth or on entry into the United States under the Child Citizenship Act of 2000, they may be eligible for immediate relative status under the INA.

Q. Are my children, who are not the children of my deceased U.S. citizen spouse, covered under this program?

A. Yes. Whether or not your children are also the children of your deceased U.S. citizen spouse, the program covers your children in the United States as long as they meet the definition of your "child" in section 101(b) of the INA.

Q. If I become a permanent resident based on my marriage to my deceased spouse, will I have to submit Form I-751, Petition to Remove Conditions on Residence?

A. No. Those who obtain permanent residence based on being the widow(er) of a citizen are not subject to conditional permanent residence and will not have to file Form I-751.

Q. What if my U.S. citizen spouse died and I remarried, but my marriage to the new spouse has been terminated by divorce or death?

A. If you remarried after the death of your previous U.S. citizen spouse, you are ineligible for this program based on your first marriage, whether or not your subsequent marriage ended due to a divorce from or the death of your subsequent spouse. If your second spouse is deceased but was a U.S. citizen, you may be eligible based on your second marriage.

Q. What if I was legally separated or divorced from my U.S. citizen spouse at the time of his or her death?

A. If you were divorced or legally separated from your U.S. citizen spouse at the time of his or her death, you are ineligible for this program.

Q. Where can I find more information?

A. USCIS is the agency within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security that handles immigration. For more information, visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov. ***(USCIS)***

US govt brings settlement authority issue to 9th Circuit

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. government on Tuesday brought to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit the legal issue as to who should attend the settlement conference in businessman John K. Baldwin's federal tax refund lawsuit against the United States.

Deputy assistant attorney general Tamara W. Ashford filed an emergency petition asking the Ninth Circuit to order the U.S. District Court for the NMI (Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona and Senior Judge Alex R. Munson) to vacate its orders issued on Sept. 9, 13, and 14, 2011.

In the Sept. 9 order, Munson denied the U.S. government's emergency motion to excuse the government from the requirement that person with full settlement authority attend the settlement conference in Baldwin's lawsuit.

In the Sept. 13 order, Munson stood pat on his earlier decision that a person with authority to recommend any settlement reached by the parties to the Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation must be present at the settlement conference in Baldwin's lawsuit.

Manglona, in the Sept. 14 order, denied the U.S. government's second emergency motion.

In the U.S. government's petition in the Ninth Circuit, Ashford said the orders raise the issue of whether the District Court has the authority to direct the United States, its agencies, or its officers to appear in their official capacities at routine settlement conferences through a high-level official who has full settlement authority over the claim in dispute.

Ashford said the orders also raise the issue whether, if such authority exists, it has been abused under the circumstances of this case.

U.S. Department of Justice Tax Division's trial attorney Lauren M. Castaldi stated in the emergency motion that due to the amount at issue in Baldwin's suit, "settlement proposals may involve a concession of more than $2 million."

Castaldi asked the District Court to allow him and trial counsel for the U.S. Jeremy Hendon to personally appear at the settlement conference and Deborah Meland, the chief of the Tax Division's Office of Review, will be available by phone.

Castaldi stated, among other things, that only by centralizing decision-making in these cases can the Internal Revenue Service and the DOJ hope to be able to treat all taxpayers similarly, so that the burdens of government are fairly shared by all.

The settlement conference in Baldwin's suit is scheduled for Oct. 17, 2011, in Idaho before Munson.

In his Sept. 9 order, Munson said that in 29 years of facilitating settlement negotiations, he has never brought about a settlement agreement without having present on each side a person with full authority to reflect such an agreement.

Under the requirement, the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Tax Division in consultation with the Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation has final settlement authority for a refund of this amount.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

Congress' inability to govern creates great risks

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Most members of Congress were probably high achievers in school. But, as a group, they have a serious deadline problem. Congress' inability to get things done—and done on time—is creating grave risks for the country.

The nation teetered on the brink of default in early August because Democrats and Republicans couldn't agree on whether to raise the debt ceiling. At the last minute, they brokered a deal—but one that largely postponed the problem.

Just eight weeks later, Washington's procrastinating again. The Senate last week approved a stopgap spending bill that would keep the government open until mid-November. For a while, it looked as though even that wouldn't get done because of a battle over how to fund federal disaster relief.

This week, the House must consider that same bill. We strongly urge representatives to approve it and not waste any more time.

Even in normal times, Congress has a hard time meeting deadlines. The nonpartisan No Labels group released a report last week showing that only twice in the last 25 years has Capitol Hill passed all its yearly spending bills on time.

But these aren't normal times. The failure to govern carries greater risks now. As the folks at No Labels put it, "Missed deadlines and petty arguments are unacceptable for elected officials tasked with pulling our nation out of an economic crisis."

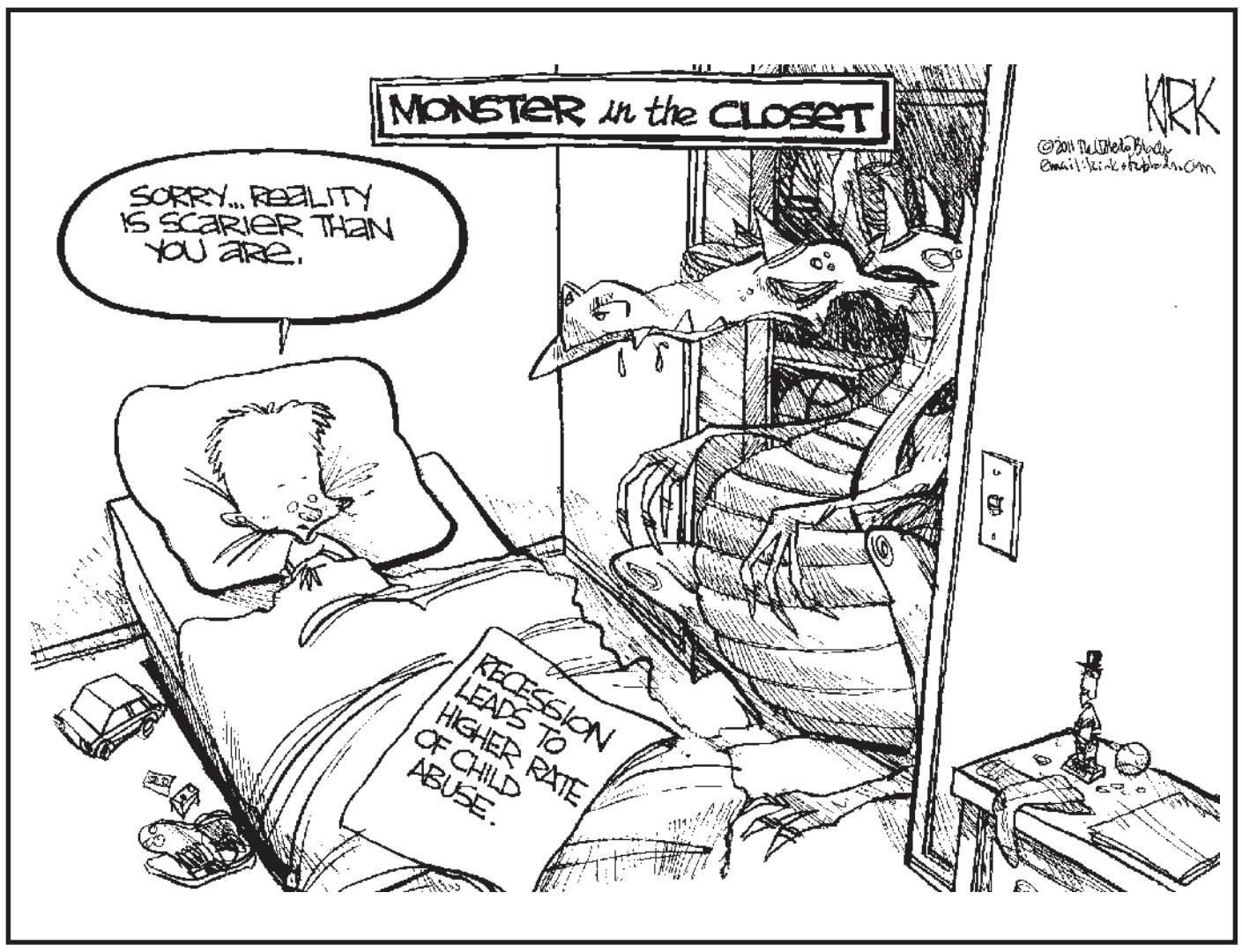
We have a $14 trillion debt, a stalled economy and vanishing consumer confidence. And what is Washington doing? Arguing over how to pay for disaster relief and postponing spending bills.

The stakes are high for Congress in November. Not only must lawmakers finalize those appropriation bills for 2012, but the debt supercommittee must approve an additional $1.5 trillion in savings by Nov. 23. If the bipartisan group, created in August as part of the debt ceiling compromise, can't come to agreement, automatic cuts will be triggered across parts of the government.

Like all Americans, we expect robust debates. But leaders must do more than preen off talking points. They need to govern.

Former Defense Secretary Robert Gates, who served eight presidents over five decades, reminded an audience at the Southern Methodist University Tate Lecture series last week how the nation once solved problems. We won the Cold War and met many other challenges because our leaders governed from the center. The extremes expressed themselves freely, but those in charge charted a middle ground that reflected fundamental American values.

That's not so today, which is why both parties need to put aside their absolutist tendencies and urgently search for common ground. Kicking problems down the road only harms America.



The scapegoating of Amanda Knox

By NINA BURLEIGH
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Amanda Knox is nothing if not a good story. The pretty young American who headed to Italy for her junior year abroad, fell for an Italian boy and then landed in the dock with him, accused, convicted and then exonerated on charges of murdering another young woman in a sex game gone wild.

Knox was never one of the usual suspects. Her roommate, Meredith Kercher, a British exchange student, was found on the night after Halloween 2007, raped, with her throat slit, in the Perugia apartment they shared. According to the European Council, one in five European females are victims of a sexual assault at some point in their lives. Ninety-eight percent of their aggressors are male.

When I went to Perugia in 2009, as Knox's testimony began, to research a book on the case, I didn't know whether she was guilty as charged, but I was certainly willing to believe it. Either way, it was a textbook example of our never-ending fascination with the supposed femme fatale. Men may batter wives and girlfriends daily, sometimes to death, but their perp walks rarely make it onto Nancy Grace's show, let alone through a second cycle of the local news. "Foxy Knoxy" (as she called herself on her MySpace page), on the other hand, has been a continual headline grabber from the moment of her arrest.

After a few weeks in Perugia, I saw that there was something very wrong with the narrative of the murder that the authorities and the media were presenting. There was almost no material evidence linking Knox or her boyfriend to the murder, and no motive, while there was voluminous evidence—material and circumstantial—implicating a third person, a man, whose name one almost never read in accounts of the case. It became clear that it wasn't facts but Knox—her femaleness, her Americaness, her beauty—that was driving the case.

In person, in prison and in the media, Knox was subjected to all manner of outlandish, misogynistic behavior. A prison "doctor" (he has never stepped forward publicly) tested a sample of Knox's blood and then informed her she was HIV-positive, prompting Knox to list every man she'd had sex with. Authorities passed the names of seven men to reporters from the British tabloid pack, who printed it. Soon thereafter, Knox was told the doctor was mistaken and she didn't have AIDS.

Outside prison walls, Italian criminologists were opining in the media and eventually on the witness stand that because the body had been covered with a blanket, the killer was surely female because such an act was evidence of feminine "pieta."

Finally, there were the prosecution's operatic closing arguments, repeated almost verbatim in the appeal that ended last week. Knox was a "luciferina"—a she-devil—capable of a special, female duplicity. She was "dirty on the inside." Always, even from the defense lawyers, the closing arguments ended with appeals to God, in a medieval courtroom with a peeling fresco of the Madonna on the wall and a crucifix hanging above the judge.

AP

Amanda Knox cries at a news conference in Seattle Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2011, after returning home from Italy.

The prosecution's "angel-faced killer" had arrived in Italy a few months after turning 20, a high school ugly duckling who blossomed into a beauty in college and was still testing her effect on men. She appeared outwardly confident, but, according to people I interviewed, she was deeply averse to conflict. She was also a compulsive diarist, explaining herself in rounded handwriting filling hundreds of journals. She thought of herself as a writer.

But that penchant for unfiltered self-expression hastened her demise.

In her "prison diary," a document police handed to reporters after she'd scribbled in it for a month, Knox was often upbeat, blithe, clearly a devotee of positive thinking. The reporters who read the diary explained it as evidence of a psychopathic mind. Tabloid reporters from Britain concentrated on the few instances where she appeared to have sex on her mind—when she wrote about the fan letters Italian men sent her in jail, for example. They ignored pages she filled with details about being sexually harassed by a prison guard.

In Perugia, reporters found people to talk about how the young American had attracted sexual desire and attention from men—willfully and not. She may have been doing only what liberated,

See KNOX on Next Page

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Reconnecting with key stakeholders

By RIK VILLEGAS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Rik coaches businesses through their most challenging transition points to develop consistently profitable businesses that operate without them. He can be contacted at RikVillegas@gmail.com, and you can comment on this article at http://rikv.blogspot.com.

It's easy to focus on the immediate stakeholders of your business, such as your customers and employees, and ensure that their needs are being met. However, there are some stakeholders that tend to be neglected because they don't appear to be as important or don't bring attention to themselves. This is a common mistake made by many business owners, but it can come around to bite them in the future. If those relationships deteriorate, it becomes essential to rebuild them and repair the damage that might have been done. But just like any other relationship, it is often more costly in time and resources than just taking the time to maintain those associations in the first place.

I had the challenge of mending broken stakeholder relationships over 10 years ago when the Small Business Development Center was under the Northern Marianas College. The college was undergoing budget constraints and evaluating which programs should be cut, and the SBDC was on the chopping block. This was because the former director had treated it as an autonomous organization, neglecting the link it had with the college, and therefore the relationship with college personnel deteriorated. At the same time the Center was being pushed away from the college, it was also being pulled by another agency to move the Center under the Commonwealth Development Authority, and in all likelihood, the move was going to happen.

With the position vacant, I was asked to apply for the director's position in order to help unite the college community with the Center. I was the Faculty Senate president at the time and worked closely with upper management. When I was hired, my first task was to align the SBDC with the college and demonstrate the vital link it had with the mission and goals of the institution. This was accomplished by creating a strategic plan and creating programs that would immediately benefit the community and reinforce the value we provided to local businesses.

Ironically, the Center had helped numerous business owners develop mission statements and business plans, yet it did not have a plan or a statement of its mission. I worked with the other consultants to create a comprehensive plan that would tie our efforts with the college and community. My purpose was to have a written document outlining how we intended to accomplish certain actions that would create a stronger role with our stakeholder relationships. After several weeks, the plan was finished, presented to the Board of Regents, and given their endorsement.

The next step was to implement the plan. All the consultants worked to develop a six-week program called *Business Plan for Success*, with the goal to break the planning process into six weekly steps. Each session was taught by the consultants using computers so participants could immediately start working on their business plan. The outcome would be a workable business plan that could serve as the map for growth and success, or to attract capital. We also looked at other programs already scheduled and determined how we could make them more effective.

The end result is that we saved the Center and it remained under the college where it would continue to serve the needs of hundreds of entrepreneurs and established businesses. We were able to strengthen the ties with the college, provide beneficial programs for the community, and continue to work with lending sources and other partners to benefit entrepreneurs. This continued for many years until ongoing budget constraints over the years eventually made the Department of Commerce a more logical home for the Center.

One stakeholder that is often ignored is the government. They definitely have a stake in the success of your business through the collection of taxes and fees. They can either be an advocate or adversary for your business depending on the relationship you've developed with local politicians. There are numerous instances when the owner of an organization supported the losing candidate and the consequences were dire.

All healthy relationships rely on open communication, trust, and a willingness to work together to find solutions to a disagreement. Make a list of all your stakeholders and develop a plan to maintain strong ties or reconnect with your key stakeholders.

Letters to the Editor

Some questions about wage rate survey

The prevailing wage rate survey is finally published and I understand it's one of a kind for the CNMI. I read the article announcing this matter thoroughly and feel that what was printed by the media represented a good overview of the details of the volume of data collected and analyzed for the final published report. However, I do have some questions and perhaps these inquiries would also help the users of the final prevailing wage report as I gather that the Governor's Office is also conducting a separate prevailing wage survey of its own. A survey like this is subject to a test of its validity and reliability based on the data that comprises the survey—from data collection, selection, compilation, and analysis to its final report form. In addition, footnotes on specific issues do affect the interpretation of the data, and certainly one must fully review this type of added comment in order to fully understand the limitations and special circumstances of the survey.

With respect to the validity of the survey, what method did the contractor use to collect credible data from the intended population group? I understand that a large number of questionnaire forms were sent out, and only half of the questionnaires were returned and used for the data. Of the number of accepted questionnaire forms, how many were discarded and how many were finally used for data? Has the contractor tested the readability level of the survey? What readability method was used and what was the target reading index and why was that reading level used as the basis for the survey questionnaires?

With respect to the reliability of the final prevailing wage rate findings and conclusions, how certain is the contractor about the recommended prevailing wage rate as the CNMI's representative actual prevailing wage rate for the type of jobs or cluster of jobs? The number of unanswered survey questionnaires is substantial. Is this material to the reliability of the findings and final determination of the prevailing wage rate? If reliability is questionable, would the contractor use another approach and methodology, and what would that methodology be?

The report, based on media reports, referenced the prevailing wage rate as dollar per hour amount for jobs subject of the survey. I understand that the job descriptions used for questionnaires were derived from the FLSA job descriptions, including the clustering of jobs per general categories such as executive, managerial, professional, vocational, and others. The FLSA job description is an excellent source for describing jobs, and from such reliance for job information we could isolate the exempt and non-exempt jobs. However, borderline job description of the actual job in the survey do make an big impact, in which case the contractor would address special footnotes in those cases. The problem with respect to the per hour wage determination is that it matters because such a way of remuneration do not apply to executive, managerial, and professional cluster of jobs as these jobs are exempt and are paid on salary basis, not on a per-hour basis. Reporting a president of a company as earning $42.50 per hour is unheard of and do present serious flaws in the analysis. Even for the sake of argument, if this is acceptable by the contractor, what per year annual work hours was used for this purpose? The 2,080 standard hours for non-exempt jobs do carry this method, but for exempt, that is questionable. So what explanation could the contractor offer in these cases? On another note, an absent owner who is paid $100,000 per year, and never sets foot in the CNMI, does this mean that the exempt job is paid at $100,000 per hour? For clarification, this type of issues should be explained and demonstrated fully by the contractor in order to arrive at a most reasonable and credible wage rate for all jobs found in industries spread out among the three islands of the CNMI.

This is just the tip of the iceberg of questions about this survey report. Rest assured that we will continue to ask so we could arrive at a true and actual prevailing wage rate. In giving full faith reliance on this impartial survey (if that is the case), life and living wages of the lower rung wage earners and working poor would be impacted, including the survivability of small businesses that are the major employers in the CNMI.

Francisco R. Agulto
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

Pedestrian crosswalk

Hafa Adai, my fellow CNMI residents: As I drive through pedestrian crosswalks throughout our island of Saipan, most especially near school zones, I've noticed that many drivers tend to forget that summer is already over. The speed limit within school zones is 20 mph when children are present. However, I have noticed that a lot of our drivers do not comply with the posted speed limit signs. School year 2011-2012 has started and approximately 11,000 students travel or walk to and from school. I would like to remind all drivers to be cautious when driving through school zones and at the same time to remind us as parents to remind our children to be cautious and make sure that the roads are clear before crossing the street as their safety is of utmost importance. Additionally, I would like to thank the Department of Public Works for the installation of yellow flashing lights at all school zones and major intersections. Let's think safety first for our schoolchildren and ourselves. Thank you and may God bless us all.

Rep. Joseph M. Palacios
17th CNMI Legislature

KNOX

From Page 10

self-absorbed young American girls do—having fun. But that liberation and fun—breaking into solo singing in a restaurant, doing yoga stretches and cartwheels in a police station—were read differently by Perugia authorities and more reticent peers, like the victim's British girlfriends. To the Italian authorities, her careless seductiveness juxtaposed with the ghastly scene inside her house were clues to the witch, the deliberate player of men: Their theory was that she was not only a murderer but a murderous mastermind.

Knox was put through an extreme version of the test many young women face. She was endowed with compelling, mysterious powers. The focus on her sexuality suggests that civilization can easily tip backward to the primeval era when the feminine was classified, worshiped and feared in the form of powerful archetypes: Madonnas and Dianas, virgins and whores. Knox inadvertently fed these archetypes by the ways she behaved in public and advertised herself on the Web and, eventually, in her own compulsive writings.

In the end, however, it was precisely because she wasn't that monster, because she hadn't perfected that persona in the world, that she could do so little to defend herself. Knox had barely defined herself; she didn't possess the language or the maturity to match, let along overcome, the authority of other people's notions.

In Perugia's archaeology museum, there are hundreds of ancient Etruscan funerary urns. For some reason, perhaps having to do with women dying in childbirth, many of them feature a carved relief depicting the Iphigenia fable. Iphigenia was the daughter of Agamemnon, who agreed to sacrifice her so that his ships might sail to Troy. At the last moment, the goddess Diana replaced the girl with a deer. In prison, Knox's jail mates nicknamed her Bambi, apparently because of her passivity in the face of accusations.

The young woman who first went to jail at age 20 was a cipher onto whose photogenic, smiling face some Italians could see the archetypal Madonna-whore and, in whose pale eyes, others saw a psychopath. She was arrested at a time and in a place where young sexually active women are endowed in the minds of grown men, and maybe women too, with propensities for fantastic adult kink that few possess. The gaunt, tense woman defending herself on appeal bore barely any resemblance to the fresh, pretty girl photographed kissing her boyfriend outside the murder scene. Only now, having lost the power to bewitch and beguile, has she been revealed as human—and also, apparently, not guilty of murder.

Nina Burleigh's book on the Amanda Knox case, The Fatal Gift of Beauty, *was published in August. She wrote this for the* Los Angeles Times.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly sunny with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

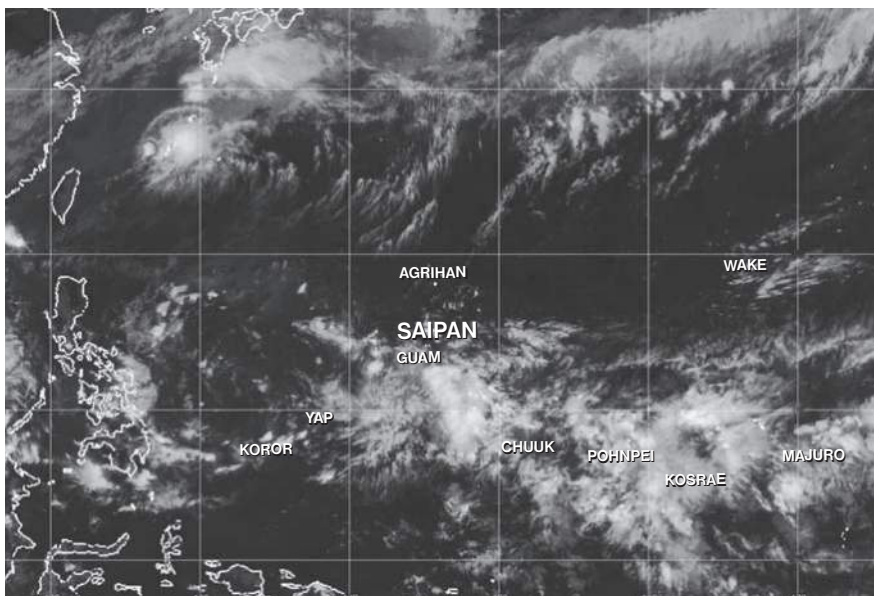
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲86	▼78
Palau	Rain	▲86	▼78
Yap	Rain	▲85	▼77
Chuuk	Rain	▲82	▼76
Pohnpei	Rain	▲83	▼74
Kosrae	Rain	▲85	▼78
Majuro	Rain	▲82	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲62	▼54
Beijing	Sunny	▲74	▼49
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲82	▼77
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲89	▼76
London	Windy	▲59	▼51
Los Angeles	Rain	▲64	▼53
Manila	Thundershowers	▲92	▼80
Melbourne	Showers	▲64	▼57
Miami	Showers	▲87	▼77
New York	Sunny	▲71	▼45
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼63
Paris	Showers	▲61	▼48
Pusan	Sunny	▲76	▼58
Rome	Sunny	▲82	▼62
Salem	Showers	▲56	▼44
San Francisco	Showers	▲62	▼55
Seoul	Sunny	▲70	▼52
Tokyo	Showers	▲77	▼65
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲73	▼48

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Low-level convergence is combining with upper-level divergence south of an upper-level trough across the Northern Marianas to generate scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over the Marianas and northeast of Yap between 7N and 14N from 139E to 151E. A circulation is centered northwest of Koror at 11N132E. Isolated thunderstorms are found southeast of the center near Koror but west of Yap within 110 miles of a line from 5N130E to 7N135E to 12N135E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae and the Marshall Island between 1N and 10N from 151E to the date line. An upper-level circulation centered northeast of Wake Island at 24N170E is triggering isolated thunderstorms near Wake Island between 17N and 21N from 164E to 174E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:52 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
9:21 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
4:40 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
10:28 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:02 PM
Sunday	6:08 AM	6:01 PM
Monday	6:08 AM	6:00 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	2:09 PM	1:07 AM
Friday	2:49 PM	1:59 AM
Saturday	3:28 PM	2:49 AM
Sunday	4:04 PM	3:37 AM
Monday	4:40 PM	4:24 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 5, 2011

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
C05062	2:20am	2:50am	1, 5
SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)			
C05064	4:25am	5:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
C05070	4:25am	5:15am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
C05064	4:25am	6:00am	1, 5 via ROP
C05068	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C05068	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05074	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C05076	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
5K386	5:50pm	6:40pm	3, 4, 7
C05078	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
C05072	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily
5K384	7:20am	8:10am	2, 6
5K382	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)			
5K212	8:20am	10:55am	4, 7
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:05am	8:30am	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:15am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C05070/191	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:10pm	Daily via NRT
C05068/183	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM
C05076/183	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM
C05076/193	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
C05072/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
5K168	8:15am	11:25pm	1, 5
C05076/179	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
C05064	5:30am	6:00am	1, 5
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)			
C05062	3:20am	3:55am	1, 5
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
C05062	2:20am	3:55am	1, 5 via ROP
C05069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
C05071	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C05071	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05073	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05075	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C05077	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C05079	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
5K387	6:30am	7:20am	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
5K383	6:30pm	7:20pm	2, 6
NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN			
5K213	11:55am	4:25pm	4, 7
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:05pm	12:35am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/288	7:55am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
C0190/5079	10:55am	9:00pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:35pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:35pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0192/5071	9:55pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
PR110/C05071	10:00pm	7:25am+1	5 via GUM
PR110/C05071	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
C0184/5071	10:55pm	7:25am+1	3, 6 via GUM
C0184/5071	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 4, 7 via GUM
C0184/5071	11:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ724/603	12:30am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
5K169	1:00pm	8:05pm	1, 5
C0180/5071	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Business

Apple gets no love from Wall Street for new iPhone

CUPERTINO, Calif. (AP)—The most closely kept secret about the iPhone 5? There isn't one—yet.

The new iPhone is faster, has a better camera and allows you to sync content without needing a computer. It includes a futuristic, voice-activated service that responds to spoken commands and questions such as "Do I need an umbrella today?" It will now be available to Sprint customers as well as those from AT&T and Verizon Wireless.

But there's a catch. Apple named it 4S when most people were expecting the iPhone 5. Immediately, tech bloggers and Apple fans alike began to wonder if this new iPhone was not as cool as they had hoped. Investors were disappointed, too. Apple's stock fell more than 5 percent before getting a late bump.

If Tuesday's unveiling seemed like a letdown, it was because Apple didn't do a good job of managing expectations. That's a familiar problem for Apple, whose penchant for secrecy invites hyperbolic speculation between its product announcements. Given that it had been 16 months since the previous iPhone hit the market, imaginations had even more time to run wild this time.

"This is the typical Apple scenario: People keep wanting it to do the impossible," said Tim Bajarin, a Creative Strategies analyst who has been following the company for decades.

Apple's approach to the event didn't do any favors for Tim Cook in his first major public appearance since he succeeded Steve Jobs as CEO six weeks ago. Jobs, the Apple visionary and co-founder, relinquished the reins to focus on his health problems.

Cook handled his presentation in a pedestrian fashion that lacked Jobs' flair. The format and stage setting were similar to the presentations that Jobs had orchestrated so masterfully, giving Cook little opportunity to make his own mark, said Adam Hanft, a marketing consultant who runs his own firm in New York.

"It wasn't fair to Tim in his inaugural because there he didn't have any product to show off that was a real barnburner," Hanft said.

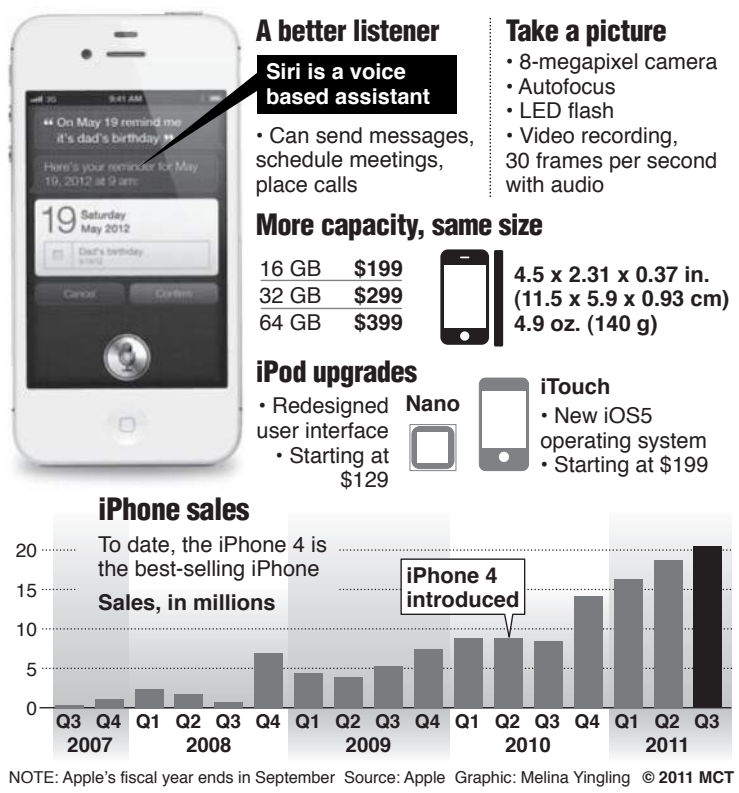
"This allowed him to get his sea legs, but he still needs to find his voice and style. They need to come up with a new setting that is equally Apple-like aesthetically, but not the same that they had while Steve was there."

Even though the iPhone 4S is an improvement over its predecessor, it isn't being perceived as a breakthrough partly because it's not being branded as an iPhone 5, as most people had been expecting, said Prashant Malaviya, a marketing professor at Georgetown University.

Not all investors were disappointed.

Stephen Coleman, chief investment officer for Daedalus Capital and an Apple investor since 2004, calls his Apple stock "the safest investment that I own." He said Tuesday's upgrades were "incremental"—and praised Apple for not messing too much with a model that's working.

"To those who say they're underwhelmed, I'd say they've been fast asleep," Coleman said. "Anyone who's been paying attention at all would have to be dazzled by the product, and earnings."


Apple upgrades
Apple's new iPhone 4S, which features a better camera, a faster processor and a new voice based assistant, will go on sale Oct. 14.
A better listener
Siri is a voice based assistant
• Can send messages, schedule meetings, place calls
Take a picture
• 8-megapixel camera
• Autofocus
• LED flash
• Video recording, 30 frames per second with audio
More capacity, same size
16 GB $199
32 GB $299
64 GB $399
4.5 x 2.31 x 0.37 in. (11.5 x 5.9 x 0.93 cm)
4.9 oz. (140 g)
iPod upgrades
• Redesigned user interface
• Starting at $129
Nano
iTouch
• New iOS5 operating system
• Starting at $199
iPhone sales
To date, the iPhone 4 is the best-selling iPhone
Sales, in millions
iPhone 4 introduced
20
15
10
5
0
Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3
2007 2008 2009 2010 2011
NOTE: Apple's fiscal year ends in September Source: Apple Graphic: Melina Yingling © 2011 MCT

Oil drops hits new lows for 2011, again

NEW YORK (AP)—Oil prices can't find a leg to stand on.

Many of the key factors that drove oil to three-year highs in May—fears of growing Middle East tensions, rising Chinese demand, bullish views from investment banks and expectations of an aggressive U.S. stimulus plan—have been diminished.

Meanwhile, a looming financial crisis in Europe has spooked energy markets as it raises the specter of another global recession. As a result, oil prices have plunged.

Benchmark crude has dropped 32 percent since peaking near $114 per barrel in late April. Oil slipped as low as $74.95 on Tuesday, the cheapest price since September of last year. It recovered somewhat, but remains below $76 per barrel.

If oil holds at that level, or falls further, gasoline will become cheaper. Analysts say the average price for gas could drop as low as $3.25 per gallon by the end of the year from the current $3.41 per gallon. That would save drivers roughly $5.44 billion over the next three months. The drop also means homeowners could see lower heating bills this winter.

This could give consumers more money to spend at retail outlets, restaurants and elsewhere. Lower oil prices should also lead to a decrease in fuel costs for shipping companies and airlines.

But there is a downside: the decline reflects an increasingly dim view of the world economy. Oil demand was expected to rise sharply this year as factories expanded production and consumers bought more cars. Economists still expect global demand for oil to grow but at a slower pace.

The Paris-based International Energy agency reduced its forecast for global demand this year by about 60,000 barrels a day to an average of 89.5 million barrels a day.

Goldman Sachs has routinely predicted a significant increase in oil prices. On Wednesday, the investment bank pulled back a bit, saying that financial stress in Europe will slow energy demand growth.

Goldman cut its 12-month expectation for benchmark crude by $10.50 to $116 per barrel and it cut its Brent crude forecast by $7.50 to $122.50 per barrel.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

American Airlines faces turbulent ride

NEW YORK (AP)—American Airlines' CEO is proud that his company, unlike its biggest rivals, avoided the bankruptcy process to remake itself. Investors aren't so sure. As the economic outlook darkens, the airline industry is bracing for trouble. Among the biggest U.S. carriers, American has the most to fear. It faces the highest labor, aircraft and borrowing costs. "They've become old and feeble," says Vaughn Cordle, chief analyst with AirlineForecasts. American's problems are the kinds that can be fixed under the protection of a bankruptcy court. And some analysts point to the airline's beaten-down stock price—it's fallen 69 percent this year—as evidence that Chapter 11 is not out of the realm of possibility.

Casino industry seeking new online poker bill

LAS VEGAS (AP)—The commercial casino industry wants Congress to skip proposals already on the table for regulating the estimated $6 billion online poker industry and pass new legislation that would let states decide whether to allow online gambling and would require online casino companies to be licensed. Chief Executive Frank Fahrenkopf of the American Gaming Association said Tuesday at the start of an industry conference in Las Vegas that he's optimistic a new bill will be introduced this year. "We're perhaps closer to federal legislation than we've ever been," Fahrenkopf told reporters during a news conference. "There's a buzz in Washington about the need for action."

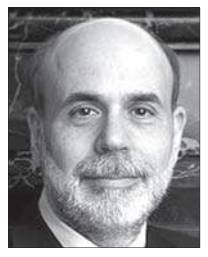
Ford to pay workers $6,000 bonus in new contract

DETROIT (AP)—The union that once set the gold standard for American wages is giving up pay raises in exchange for a piece of the auto industry's profits and the promise of thousands of new jobs. Under agreements struck with Ford and General Motors, most of the companies' factory workers will get profit-sharing checks instead of annual raises. They'll also get a signing bonus. In turn, the automakers will increase their workforces and invest billions more dollars in their factories.

Bernanke warns recovery 'close to faltering'

WASHINGTON (AP)—Europe has a debt crisis. America has a jobs crisis. Corporate profits could be in trouble. World financial markets are in turmoil. And no one seems prepared to ride to the rescue.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke bluntly warned Congress on Tuesday of what most of America has sensed for some time: The economic recovery, such as it is, "is close to faltering." The central bank chief spoke on a day when the stock market spent most of the trading hours in bear market territory—down 20 percent from its most recent highs in April. A late-day rally helped the market finish higher.


Bernanke

Bernanke's exchange with lawmakers seemed to capture the growing belief that no one is prepared to help the global economy in any meaningful way anytime soon. Speaking in unusually frank terms, he also captured the nation's sour economic mood.

The Fed chief was asked about protests around Wall Street, which went on for an 18th day as demonstrators railed against corporate greed and expressed frustration over the economy.

Bernanke replied: "I think people are quite unhappy with the state of the economy and what's happening. They blame, with some justification, the problems in the financial sector for getting us into this mess. And they're dissatisfied with the policy response here in Washington. And at some level, I can't blame them."

"Certainly, 9 percent unemployment and very slow growth is not a very good situation," he added. "That's why they are protesting."

Throughout the day, traders and U.S. policymakers kept one eye on Europe, where a debt crisis has dragged on more than a year. Investors worry that a messy default by Greece could hurt European banks and their American counterparts.

On Tuesday, the Greek finance minister said the nation has enough money to pay pensions, salaries and bondholders through the middle of next month—and that was seen as good news. Bernanke told Congress there was little the Fed could do about Europe's problems.

"Unfortunately, we are innocent bystanders here," he said. "I am persuaded they are aware of the risks."

Bernanke said he believes the Fed's latest move to help the economy would be "meaningful but not an enormous support" for the economy. The program, known as Operation Twist, is designed to lower long-term interest rates so people and businesses will spend more money.

"It should help, somewhat, on job creation and growth," the Fed chief told Congress. "It's particularly important now that the economy is close, the recovery is close to faltering."

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
10,808.71	1,123.95	2,404.82
+153.41	+24.72	+68.99
+1.44%	+2.25%	+2.95%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.0481	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7838	Philippine Peso	43.9525
British Pound	0.6476	Indian Rupee	49.175	Singapore Dollar	1.3082
Canadian Dollar	1.0538	Indonesian Rupiah	8950	South Korean Won	1193.5
Chinese Yuan	6.362	Japanese Yen	76.663	Swiss Franc	0.9219
Euro	0.7515	New Zealand Dollar	1.3136	Taiwan Dollar	30.6213
				Thailand Baht	31.12

Nation

After 4-year ordeal, a Seattle homecoming for Knox

LONDON (AP)—After Italian prisoners gave her a boisterous send-off, Amanda Knox made her way home to America on Tuesday, secluded with family on the upper deck of a jetliner to Seattle as she enjoyed her first full day of freedom since her murder conviction was reversed.

Friends and family who held spaghetti dinners, bowling events and concerts to raise money for Knox's defense waited anxiously for her plane to touch down—a moment that took four years to happen.

"We all are as happy as can be. I can't tell you how long we've been looking forward to this day," her grandmother Elisabeth Huff told The Associated Press outside her home in West Seattle, a tight-knit community a few miles across Elliott Bay from downtown.

"WELCOME HOME AMANDA," read the marquee at a record store in the neighborhood where Knox grew up. Another welcome sign was hung at her father's house. A bar offered half-price drinks to celebrate her acquittal. At least one TV station in Washington state tracked the progress of her flight on the air using a plane-tracking website.

Knox's life turned around dramatically Monday when an Italian appeals court threw out her conviction in the sexual assault and fatal stabbing of her British roommate. The case played out under an international spotlight, and on Tuesday a courtroom picture of Knox crying after the verdict was read appeared on the front pages of newspapers in Italy, the U.S., Britain and around the world.

The court's decision, fueled by doubts over DNA evidence, stunned the victim's family and angered the prosecution, which insists that she was among three people who killed 21-year-old Meredith Kercher. But for Huff, "it was like the weight of the world had gone."

Knox, 24, left Perugia's Capanne prison Monday night amid cheers that a companion compared to those at a soccer stadium.

Hundreds of inmates—most of them in the men's wing—shouted "Amanda, ciao!" and "Freedom!" as she walked into the central courtyard, said Corrado Maria Daclon, head of the Italy-US Foundation, which championed Knox's cause. Daclon said Knox jumped a little for joy and waved to the prisoners.

She was soon on her way home, protected by the darkened windows of a Mercedes that led her out of the prison in the middle of the night, and then Tuesday morning to Rome's Leonardo da Vinci airport. She flew from Rome to London, where she took a direct British Airways flight to Seattle, flying business class with full-length seat and menu options including champagne, smoked salmon and prawn salad.

At least nine members of media organizations were on board, but a flight attendant blocked them from the plane's secluded upper deck "to preserve the privacy" of passengers.

AP

Amanda Knox motions as she describes flying home during a news conference shortly after her arrival at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2011, in Seattle.

Poll: 1 in 3 vets sees Iraq, Afghan wars as wastes

WASHINGTON (AP)—One in three U.S. veterans of the post-9/11 military believes the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan were not worth fighting, and a majority think that after 10 years of combat America should be focusing less on foreign affairs and more on its own problems, according to an opinion survey released Wednesday.

The findings highlight a dilemma for the Obama administration and Congress as they struggle to shrink the government's huge budget deficits and reconsider defense priorities while trying to keep public support for remaining involved in Iraq and Afghanistan for the longer term.

Nearly 4,500 U.S. troops have died in Iraq and nearly 1,700 in Afghanistan. Combined war costs since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks have topped $1 trillion.

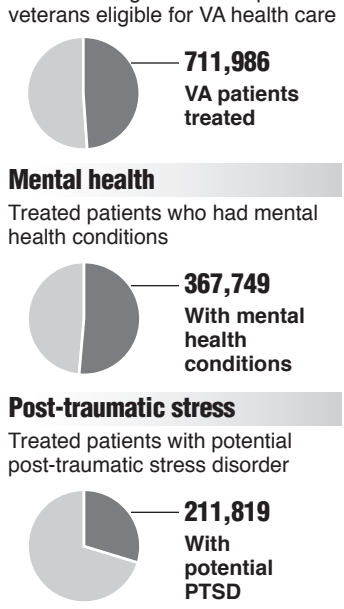
The poll results presented by the Pew Research Center portray post-9/11 veterans as proud of their work, scarred by warfare and convinced that the American public has little understanding of the problems that wartime service has created for military members and their families.

The survey also showed that post-9/11 veterans are more likely than Americans as a whole to call themselves Republicans and to disapprove of President Barack Obama's performance as commander in chief. They also are more likely than earlier generations of veterans to have no religious affiliation.

The Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan organization that studies attitudes and trends, called the study the first of its kind. The results were based on two surveys conducted between late July and mid-September. One polled 1,853 veterans, including 712 who had served in the military after 9/11 but are no longer on active duty. Of the 712 post-9/11 veterans, 336 served in Iraq or Afghanistan. The other polled 2,003 adults who had not served in the military.

Nearly half of post-9/11 veterans said deployments strained their relationship with their spouses, and a similar share reported problems with their children. On the other hand, 60 percent said they and their families benefited financially from having served abroad in a combat zone. Asked for a single word to describe their experiences, the war veterans offered a mixed picture: "rewarding," "nightmare," "eye opening," "lousy."

There are about 98,000 U.S. troops in Afghanistan, where the conflict began with a U.S.-led invasion on Oct. 7, 2001. Obama campaigned for the presidency in 2008 on getting out of Iraq and ramping up the military campaign in Afghanistan. He is on track to have all U.S. troops out of Iraq by the end of this year, and in July he announced that he would pull 10,000 troops out of Afghanistan this year and 23,000 more by next September.


Iraq and Afghan war veterans
Since Sept. 11, 2001, more than 2.2 million U.S. service members have been deployed to war zones.
Patients treated
1.4 million Afghan and Iraq war veterans eligible for VA health care
711,986
VA patients treated
Mental health
Treated patients who had mental health conditions
367,749
With mental health conditions
Post-traumatic stress
Treated patients with potential post-traumatic stress disorder
211,819
With potential PTSD
9,700 average number of new veteran patients each month
938,000 estimated new veteran claims by the end of 2013
Source: Veterans for Common Sense
Graphic: Judy Treible
© 2011 MCT

Christie says it's final: No GOP presidential run

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—After a surge of new speculation, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie declared with finality Tuesday that "now is not my time" to run for president, dashing the hopes of Republicans still searching for someone other than front-runners Mitt Romney and Rick Perry.

Christie had insisted for months that he wouldn't run. But then came an intense weekend of reconsideration before he made a firm announcement at a news conference at the New Jersey Statehouse. His decision means the campaign now basically belongs to Romney and Perry, battling to take on President Barack Obama three months before the first GOP voting.

Christie

Though both men have extensive party support, Romney, the former Massachusetts governor, has failed to win over some skeptical conservatives, and Perry, the Texas governor, has been falling in opinion polls as quickly as he had risen.

Christie was the latest, perhaps last, hope of some establishment Republicans who had already been rejected by Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels, Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour, former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, Wisconsin Rep. Paul Ryan and others who declined to run for president in 2012. He's been governor of New Jersey for less than two years, but he's cut the budget, curtailed public sector unions, and dealt with a Democratic legislature with disarming and combative confidence.

Christie disputed the idea that his name was just one more on that list.

"They weren't searching. They came right to one target, and it was me," he said Tuesday. "And it has always been me."

But he said he was sure, "Now is not my time."

There are still other potential challengers. Former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman is showing some promise in New Hampshire; former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum has support from social conservatives in Iowa and former Godfather's Pizza CEO Herman Cain is rising in national polls. Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin still hasn't said whether she'll run.

But Christie's announcement leaves Perry and Romney as the two Republicans who have the profile, campaign organization, fundraising prowess and early-state promise for a serious run at the nomination.

Within hours, Christie donors started picking sides. The Romney campaign said Ken Langone, the Home Depot financier who helped lead the push to get Christie to run, had jumped on board. Iowa businessman Gary Kirke, who met with Christie earlier this year to urge him to run, announced he would support Perry.

ACROSS THE NATION

NYC East River chopper crash kills 1; 4 rescued

NEW YORK (AP)—A helicopter carrying five people on a private tour for a birthday celebration sputtered and crashed into the East River on Tuesday afternoon shortly after takeoff from a riverbank heliport, killing one passenger and injuring three others. The victim, visiting the city with her family to celebrate her 40th birthday, apparently was trapped inside as the chopper sank about 50 feet below the surface of the swift-moving water, police said. New York Police Department divers pulled her from the water about 90 minutes after the Bell 206 Jet Ranger went down at around 3 p.m. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

3 dead, suspect sought on Montana reservation

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP)—A shooting left three people dead at a rural residence on Montana's Crow Reservation and a manhunt was under way Tuesday for an armed suspect, prompting a lockdown of schools, a hospital and other public buildings, authorities said. Authorities were searching for 22-year-old Sheldon Bernard Chase, who is considered armed and extremely dangerous, FBI spokeswoman Deborah Bertram said. The killings took place in a remote area of the southeast Montana reservation roughly 10 miles from the Wyoming border, local officials said. The victims' identities weren't released and it wasn't immediately clear when they were killed.

Kansas City police search for missing 10-month-old

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Dozens of law enforcement officers searched into the night Tuesday for a 10-month-old Kansas City girl whose disappearance from the crib in her home sparked fears of abduction by an intruder. Lisa Irwin's mother reported last seeing the baby when she put her into her crib around 10:30 p.m. Monday. The father called police around 4 a.m. Tuesday when he returned home from his job at an electrical company and couldn't find the baby. More than 100 officers scoured deep woods behind the home in the northern part of Kansas City on Tuesday afternoon before ending the search there. Officers are investigating whether Lisa was taken by an intruder who climbed through a window.

Asia

10 years on and life grim for Afghans

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP)—Asif Khan sits on a dirty, once-white blanket in an abandoned cinema and fights back tears of desperation.

He can't find a job for his eldest son, who "even knows computers," without paying a bribe. He can't afford uniforms, books or pencils for his nine daughters to go to school. And so they all live with him in the old cinema, where mangled rebars dangle like tentacles from the ceiling and a cold wind whips through windows with no glass.

It's a long way from the optimism Khan felt when he returned to Afghanistan from Pakistan after the U.S. defeated the Taliban in 2001. Now, he says, "I have no hope."

As the U.S. and NATO mark 10 years of war in Afghanistan on Friday, a grim picture emerges from scores of interviews over six months across the country with ordinary Afghans, government officials, soldiers, and former and current Taliban, along with recent data. The difference between the often optimistic assessment of U.S. generals and the reality on the ground for Afghans is stark.

There are signs of progress—an important one is that schools are open. More than 6 million children are in school today, according to the United Nations. During the Taliban, girls were denied schooling, and before that most schools were closed because of fighting. The media is also flourishing, with several newspapers, weekly magazines and 10 television channels in operation.

But for Afghans, it has been a decade of one step forward and two steps back.

Afghanistan is failing in two major areas in particular: Security and good government. Violence has gone up this year with increasingly brazen attacks, and has spread to the once-peaceful north of the country. And widespread corruption is bedeviling attempts to create a viable Afghan government and institutions to take over when the U.S. and NATO leave in 2014.

"You know right now we have no idea who to be afraid of. We are afraid of everyone. Every street has its own ruler, own thugs," said Rangina Hamidi, the daughter of Kandahar mayor Ghulam Haider Hamidi. "I don't feel safe going out of my house. To be honest I have no idea what will happen."

Just months after Hamidi spoke with the AP, her father was killed in a suicide bombing.

Recent portrayals of the Afghan war by U.S. generals have been cautiously positive. International forces released data last month saying violent attacks are down. The generals claim they have gained back land in the south, and that the morale of the Taliban is sinking.

"We ... have wrested the momentum from the enemies. ... It is clear that you (international forces) and our Afghan partners are putting unprecedented pressure on the enemies of a free and peaceful Afghanistan," CIA Director David Petraeus said in a July speech, while he was still commander of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan.

But other reports challenged Petraeus' assessments. The International Crisis Group, based in Brussels, reported in August that more districts are in fact coming under Taliban control, as the insurgency spreads to areas seen until recently as safe.

Poll after poll shows that the biggest issue for Afghans is the lack of security. Even in southern Kandahar, the former Taliban headquarters where the U.S. generals claim to have made progress, violence is a part of life.

Ehsanullah Khan, who has run an education center for girls and boys in southern Kandahar for the last six years, says his life is constantly in danger. It's not just the Taliban, but ultraconservative government officials, tribal elders, even his neighbors who object to girls going to school. Khan says he will be killed if he leaves Kandahar, and is unsafe even within the city.

"I play hide and seek," he said. "Where is the security in this country? Where is freedom?"

There were 2,108 clashes and other violent incidents per month for the latest quarter, up 39 percent from the same period last year, according to the United Nations. And last year was the deadliest of the war for international troops, with more than 700 killed.

Ten years in Afghanistan, America's longest war

U.S. and British forces invaded Afghanistan on Oct. 7, 2001, to destroy al-Qaida, the group responsible for the Sept. 11 attacks, and to remove the Taliban regime from power. Key events in the war since it began:

2001

Sept. 18 President George W. Bush authorizes use of force on 9/11 attackers; two days later, in address to joint session of Congress, Bush demands Taliban hand over al-Qaida leaders hiding in Afghanistan

Oct. U.S. begins air strikes; coalition forces put Taliban in retreat after a few weeks of fighting; Osama bin Laden escapes

Dec. 22 NATO forces install Afghan interim government

2002

April 17 President Bush calls for reconstruction of Afghanistan

June 2 Hamid Karzai chosen by tribal elders as president of transitional government

Nov. 2 Congress approves $3.2 billion for war, reconstruction

2003

March 20 U.S. invades Iraq, taking attention, resources away from Afghanistan

May 1 Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld declares major combat over

Nov. 2 NATO takes charge of international forces in Afghanistan; 65,000 troops from 46 nations by 2006

2004

Oct. 9 Karzai becomes first democratically elected president

Oct. 23 Bin Laden resurfaces in video; takes responsibility for 9/11 attacks

2005

Sept. 18 More than 6 million vote in parliamentary elections

2006

May Violence increases dramatically throughout the summer, especially in the south

Nov. NATO sets 2008 as date when Afghan forces begin to take control of security after some NATO nations question troop commitments

2007

May Major Taliban leader, Mullah Dadullah, killed by coalition forces

Aug. U.N. report says Afghan opium production has doubled in past two years

2008

Nov. Taliban rejects Karzai offer for peace talks

July 18, 2008 Presidential candidate Barack Obama says he will make fight against al-Qaida and Taliban a top priority

2009

Feb. President Barack Obama deploys 17,000 more troops to Afghanistan

March 27 Obama announces new Afghan-Pakistan strategy to disrupt and defeat al-Qaida

July Marines launch major offensive in south as part of new counterinsurgency strategy

Aug. Violence and fraud allegations surround presidential elections; Karzai declared winner in November

Dec. 1 Obama announces surge of 30,000 more troops; July 2011 to be start of U.S. troop drawdown

2010

July 23 Gen. David Petraeus named head of U.S. troops

Nov. NATO agrees to hand over control of security to Afghan troops by 2014

2011

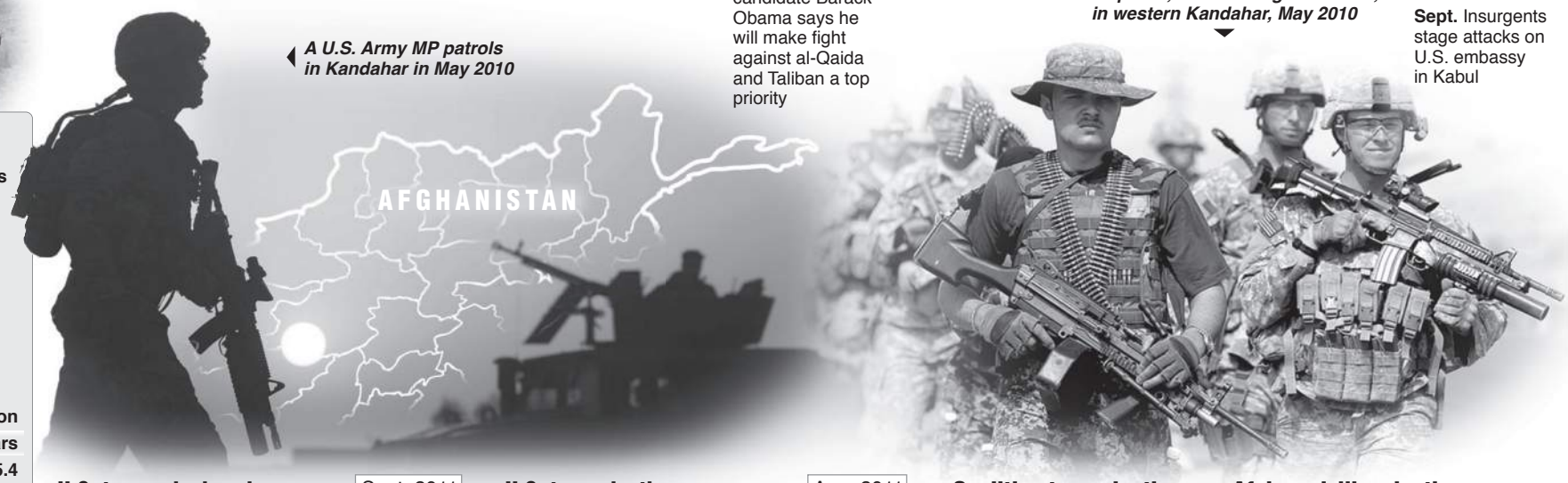
May 1 Osama bin Laden is killed by U.S. Navy Seals in Pakistan

June 22 Obama announces drawdown of 33,000 troops by 2012

Aug. Deadliest month for U.S. troops; 70 killed; nearly half died when a Chinook helicopter packed with Navy SEALs was shot down

Sept. Insurgents stage attacks on U.S. embassy in Kabul

U.S. Marines near Marjah, February 2011



A U.S. Army MP patrols in Kandahar in May 2010

Joint patrol, U.S. and Afghan forces, in western Kandahar, May 2010

Length of U.S. wars

Afghanistan	10 years
Iraq	8+
Vietnam	8
Revolutionary	7
Civil	4
WWII	4
Korea	3

Afghanistan now

Population	29.8 million
Life expectancy	45 years
Births per woman	5.4
Literacy rate	28%

- Second-highest infant mortality rate
- World's largest producer of opium, a key revenue source for Taliban

War funding

Estimated appropriations by Congress 2001-12*

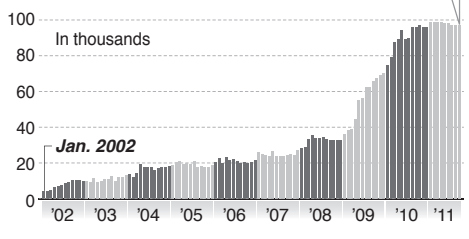
$557 billion

*2012 is requested

U.S. troops deployed

By month, as of Sept. 26, 2011

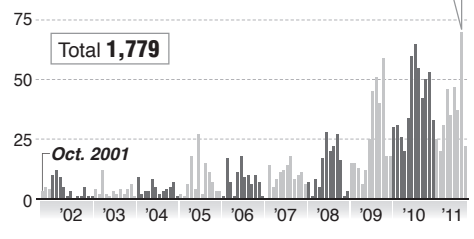
Sept. 2011: 97,000



U.S. troop deaths

By month, as of Sept. 23, 2011

Aug. 2011: 70



Coalition troop deaths

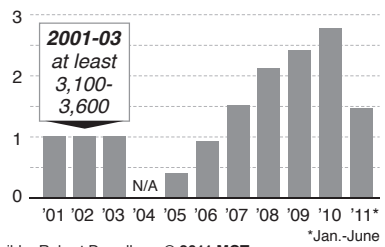
As of Sept. 23, 2011

U.K.	382
Canada	157
France	75
Germany	53
Denmark	42
Italy	42
Others	205

Total 956

Afghan civilian deaths

Estimates in thousands, by year



*Jan.-June

Source: Council on Foreign Relations, NPR, iCasualties, Congressional Research Service, U.S. Department of Defense, U.N. Assistance Mission Afghanistan, MCT Photo Service, McClatchy Washington Bureau, CIA World Factbook Graphic: Judy Treible, Robert Dorrell © 2011 MCT

ASIAN BRIEFS

IAEA to help decontaminate Japan nuke plant area

TOKYO (AP)—A team of experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency will visit Japan this week to help with the massive cleanup of areas contaminated by a radiation-leaking nuclear power plant, officials said Tuesday. Chief Cabinet Secretary Osamu Fujimura said the 12-member team will help plan and conduct the decontamination during its nine-day visit starting Friday. It will also visit the crippled Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant, meet with Japanese nuclear officials and compile a report, he said.

Philippine police capture suspected militant

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine police have captured a suspected militant who was allegedly involved in the kidnapping of three international Red Cross workers on a southern island two years ago. National police spokesman Agrimero Cruz says Adzhar Patta Mawalil was arrested on Jolo island Tuesday by soldiers and police. Cruz said Wednesday that Mawalil was a member of the al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf group that kidnapped Filipino, Italian and Swiss members of the international Red Cross in January 2009. The three were later freed reportedly after payment of a large ransom.

9 North Korean defectors arrive in South Korea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Nine North Korean defectors found three weeks ago on a small wooden boat off the coast of Japan were brought Tuesday to South Korea for resettlement, officials said. The three men, three women and three boys arrived at Incheon International Airport near Seoul, after Tokyo decided to honor their wishes to be sent to South Korea.

World

Russia vetoes UN resolution against Syria

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Russia and China vetoed a European-backed U.N. Security Council resolution Tuesday that threatened sanctions against Syria if it didn't immediately halt its military crackdown against civilians.

It would have been the first legally binding resolution adopted by the Security Council since President Bashar Assad's military began using tanks and soldiers against protesters in mid-March. Its defeat reflects the deep divisions in the U.N.'s most powerful body over how to address the ongoing violence in Syria, which the U.N. estimates has led to more than 2,700 deaths.

The European sponsors of the resolution tried to avoid a veto by watering down the language on sanctions three times, to the point where the word "sanctions" was taken out, but they failed.

The vote was 9-2 with four abstentions—India, South Africa, Brazil and Lebanon.

It was the first double veto by Russia and China since January 2007 when they vetoed a resolution calling on Myanmar to release all political prisoners, initiate a wide-ranging dialogue and end military attacks and human rights abuses.

Russia's U.N. Ambassador Vitaly Churkin told the council after the vote that his country did not support the Assad regime or the violence but opposed the resolution because it was "based on a philosophy of confrontation," contained "an ultimatum of sanctions" and was against a peaceful settlement of a crisis.

China's Ambassador Li Baodong said his country is concerned about the ongoing violence and wants to see speedy reforms but opposed the resolution because "sanctions, or threat of sanctions, do not help the situation in Syria but rather complicates the situation."

Supporters of the resolution expressed disappointment and outrage.

France's U.N. Ambassador Gerard Araud said the veto "goes against the sense of history that is under way in the region" and commended "all of those who fight against the bloodthirsty crackdown in Syria."

Britain's U.N. Ambassador Mark Lyall Grant said the veto "will be a great disappointment to the people of Syria and the wider region that some members of this council could not show their support for their struggle for basic human rights."

"By blocking this resolution, the onus is now on those countries to step up their efforts and persuade the Syrian government to end the violence and pursue genuine reform," he said.

From the outset of the Syrian uprising, the council has been split.

Western members, backed by some African and Latin American nations, demanded an end to violence, and when it was not heeded they pushed for Security Council action, including the threat of sanctions.

On the other side, Russia, China and the newly emerging global powers—Brazil, India and South Africa—pressed for more time for the Assad government to implement reforms and for political dialogue with the opposition and strongly opposed even mentioning sanctions.

It took four months of arguments between supporters and opponents of Assad's regime for the Security Council to issue a presidential statement in August condemning the escalating violence.

Britain, France, Germany and Portugal, backed by the United States, then pressed for a council resolution calling for an immediate arms embargo and other sanctions aimed at stopping the Assad government's crackdown on protesters.

AP

In this citizen journalism image made on a mobile phone and provided by The Union of Homs City Neighborhood, anti-Syrian President Bashar Assad protesters hold up a banner with the signs of the Muslim Crescent, Christian's Cross, and Alawite sect by the sword, and the name of Imam Ali, with Arabic words reading: "The Syrian people is one," to show the unity between the Syrian sects during a demonstration against the Syrian regime, in Homs province, Syria, late Monday Oct. 3, 2011.

Truck bomb kills dozens in capital of Somalia

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)—Al-Qaida-linked militants launched their deadliest single bombing in Somalia on Tuesday, killing 70 people and demonstrating how the group that blocked aid to famine victims can still mount devastating violence even after most of its fighters fled the capital in August.

A truck loaded with drums of fuel exploded outside the Ministry of Education on one of central Mogadishu's busiest streets, where students and their parents were registering for scholarships offered by the Turkish government.

Rebels of the al-Shabab militant group immediately claimed responsibility for the bombing, saying it was striking government officials and foreigners—referring to African Union peacekeeping troops supporting the U.N.-backed regime.

Although the Islamic fighters made what they called a "tactical withdrawal" from their bases in Mogadishu amid an AU offensive in August, they had vowed to carry out devastating suicide attacks.

The thunderous blast covered the city in dust more than a half-mile away and left blackened corpses sprawled amid burning vehicles. One woman used a blue plastic bucket to pour water on a charred and smoldering body.

Rescuers rushed scores of victims with burns and severed limbs to Medina Hospital, said nurse Ali Abdullahi. Even in a city beset by war and anarchy for two decades, the bombing horrified medical workers.

"It is the most awful tragedy I have ever seen," he said. "Imagine—dozens are being brought here minute by minute. Most of the wounded people are unconscious and others have their faces blackened by smoke and heat."

Duniya Salad sobbed over her brother's burned body after he died while undergoing treatment. "They killed him before he started university! Why was he killed? Damn to al-Shabab," she said.

At least 70 people were killed and 42 wounded, said Ali Muse, chief of Mogadishu's ambulance service.

"The explosion has not only affected the targeted place, but even passer-by people and car passengers died there. The death toll may increase and we are still carrying many dead bodies," he said. "It is the worst tragedy I have ever seen in the capital."

Maj. Gen. Fred Mugisha, the commander of the African Union Mission to Somalia force, known as AMISOM, said the attack targeted several Somali government institutions.

The suicide bomber detonated the explosives after the vehicle rammed a checkpoint outside a compound housing several government ministries, Mugisha said.

The attack shows that the danger from terrorists is not yet over and that there are obviously still people who want to derail the advances that the Somali people have made toward peace," the government statement said.

In a message on a website used by al-Shabab, the group said its "mujahedeen fighters have entered a place where ministers and AMISOM foreigners stay," referring to the Ugandan and Burundian peacekeeping forces.

UNESCO delays decision on disputed prize

PARIS (AP)—Diplomats at UNESCO delayed a decision Tuesday on whether to name a life sciences prize after the much-criticized ruler of Equatorial Guinea, giving respite to Western governments and U.N. diplomats who see him as tainted and the prize as an embarrassment.

Human rights groups, while welcoming the delay, said the U.N. agency for culture, education and science should have quashed the prize altogether. Famed scientists, writers and Nobel winners have implored UNESCO to abandon the honor.

Equatorial Guinea President Teodoro Obiang Nguema—frequently accused of human rights abuses and corruption—had persuaded other African leaders to back the prize in his name, and many had expected it to come to a vote at UNESCO this month.

Instead of a divisive vote that would have pit African and Western delegations against each other, UNESCO is putting a decision on hold. The Paris-based agency is walking a tightrope, trying to save its honor while maintaining its mission of consensus.

A commission at UNESCO's executive board agreed unanimously Tuesday to set up a working group to continue consultations on the prize, aiming for a conclusion next spring, said three sources at UNESCO. They spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the tense, closed-door discussions.

One senior UNESCO diplomat engaged in the negotiations called the delay a victory and said it meant the prize was put in the "deep freeze," despite the push by Obiang to make the prize into an Africa-wide cause and not just his own.

The diplomat told The Associated Press that a move by French authorities last week to seize several luxury cars allegedly belonging to Obiang's son in Paris "was devastating to Obiang's momentum" within UNESCO.

The seizure was prompted by a probe into the assets of three African leaders in France accused of corruption. Obiang's family is accused of pilfering the country's oil wealth.

Equatorial Guinea Information Minister Jeronimo Osa Osa Ecoro told The Associated Press last week that claims of theft, corruption and abuse by Obiang and his entourage are unfounded.

Human rights and media freedom groups have sought to draw attention to the country's poverty and problems.

"All the energy and money he puts into the prize effort should go to improving conditions in Equatorial Guinea," said Lisa Misol of Human Rights Watch.

UNESCO "denied his effort to get the prize reinstated immediately, but they are pushing off a final decision into the future," she said. "They need to take clear action to eliminate the prize completely."

The debate over the Obiang prize has produced unusual drama and emotion at UNESCO, whose stated mission is the promotion of peace and human rights through cultural dialogue.

WORLD BRIEFS

Chile drops terror charges in bank bombings case

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)—A major terror case in Chile fell apart Tuesday as prosecutors dropped charges due to a lack of evidence against 13 suspects who spent eight months in prison for a series of bombings outside bank buildings. The case had grown to include nearly 800 witnesses and 7,000 pieces of evidence at one point, including a poster of Guns N' Roses singer Axl Rose, history books and an academic thesis about Chilean anarchists.

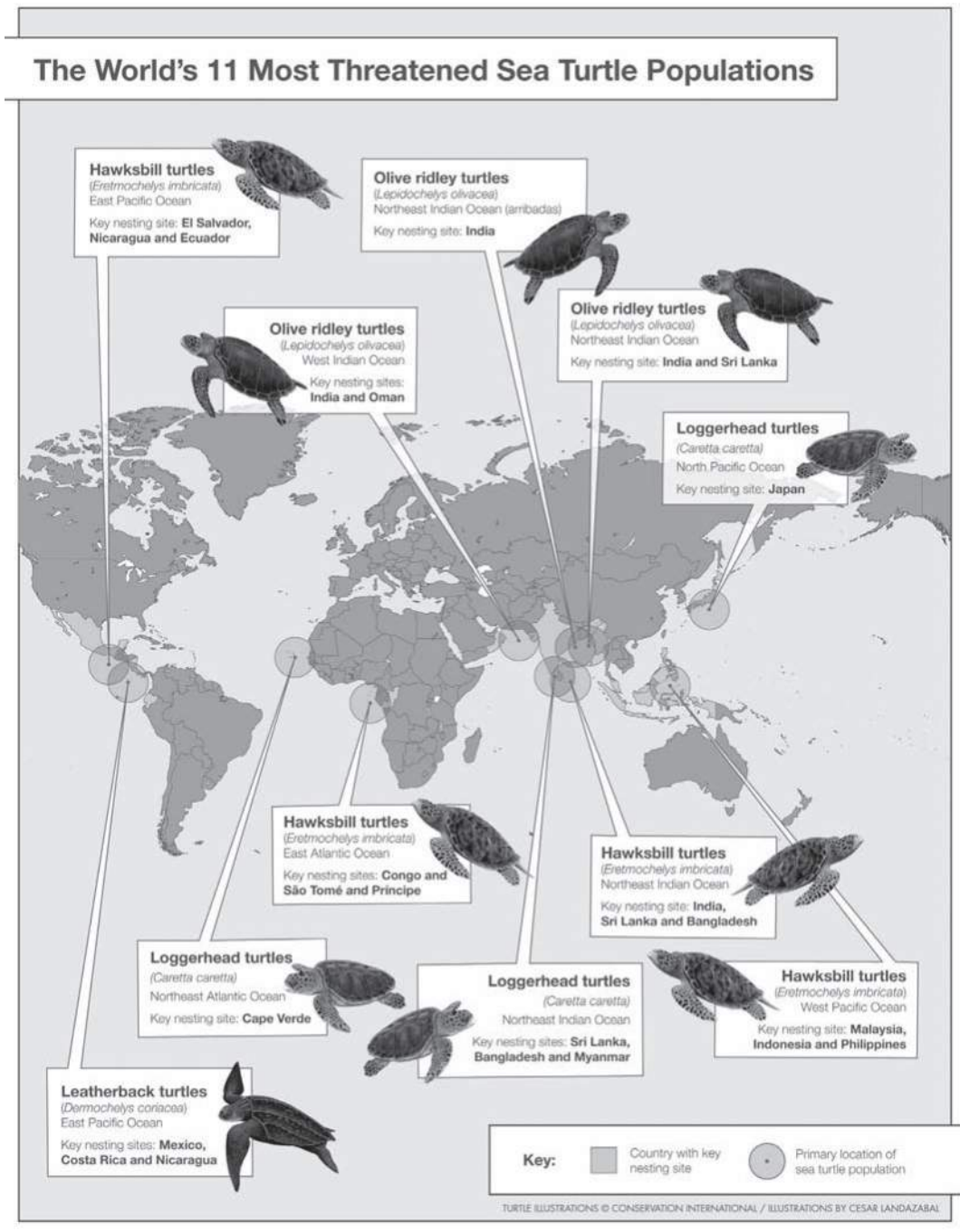
Dogs search for US woman missing in Aruba

ORANJESTAD, Aruba (AP)—A team of cadaver dogs searched through cactus and scrub brush Tuesday for the remains of a Maryland woman who was reported missing by her travel companion during a trip to Aruba. The dogs and their handlers, from a private foundation in the Netherlands that regularly assists police, worked for several hours before ending their efforts for the day without any apparent success. Solicitor General Taco Stein said they would be in the Dutch Caribbean island through the end of the week.

Body of former president returns to Venezuela

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—The remains of former President Carlos Andres Perez arrived in Venezuela on Tuesday, nine months after his death in Miami set off a bitter family feud over his final resting place. The embalmed body of Venezuela's former leader had remained in limbo, kept for a time in cold storage in a Miami mortuary then in a Florida mausoleum, while the families of his former first lady and his longtime mistress battled in court over whether he should be buried in Venezuela or the United States.

Environment



Experts identify world's most threatened sea turtle populations

SUVA, Fiji—Top sea turtle experts from around the globe have discovered that almost half (45 percent) of the world's threatened sea turtle populations are found in the northern Indian Ocean. The study also determined that the most significant threats across all of the threatened populations of sea turtles are fisheries bycatch, accidental catches of sea turtles by fishermen targeting other species, and the direct harvest of turtles or their eggs for food or turtle shell material for commercial use.

The recent report, produced by International Union for Conservation of Nature's Marine Turtle Specialist Group and supported by Conservation International and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, is the first comprehensive status assessment of all sea turtle populations globally. The study, designed to provide a blueprint for conservation and research, evaluated the state of individual populations of sea turtles and determined the 11 most threatened populations, as well as the 12 healthiest populations.

"This assessment system provides a baseline status for all sea turtles from which we can gauge our progress on recovering these threatened populations in the future," explained Roderic Mast, co-chair of the MTSG, CI vice president, and one of the paper's authors. "Through this process, we have learned a lot about what is working and what isn't in sea turtle conservation, so now we look forward to turning the lessons learned into sound conservation strategies for sea turtles and their habitats."

Five of the world's 11 most threatened species of sea turtles are found in the northern Indian Ocean, specifically threatened populations of both Loggerhead Turtles (*Caretta caretta*) and Olive Ridley Turtles (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) are found in the northern Indian Ocean in waters and on nesting beaches within Exclusive Economic Zones of countries such as India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. Other areas that proved to be the most dangerous places for sea turtles were the East Pacific Ocean (from the USA to South America) and East Atlantic Ocean (off the coast of western Africa).

"The report confirms that India is a home to many of the most threatened sea turtles in the world," said Dr. B. C. Choudhury, head of the Department of Endangered Species Management at the Wildlife Institute of India and a contributor to the study. "This paper is a wake-up call for the authorities to do more to protect India's sea turtles and their habitats to ensure that they survive."

The study also highlighted the 12 healthiest sea turtle populations in the world, which are large and currently populations facing relatively low threats. Five species, such as the Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and the Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) have populations among these dozen thriving habitats, which include nesting sites and feeding areas in Australia, Mexico, and Brazil. Other areas that harbor healthy turtle populations include the Southwest Indian Ocean, Micronesia and French Polynesia.

"This new study is very valuable in raising awareness on the critical situation of several threatened sea turtle populations in the Pacific region while duly acknowledging the existing success stories," stated Dr. Jan Steffen, Marine Program coordinator at IUCN Oceania Regional Office.

"Before we conducted this study, the best we could say about sea turtles was that six of the seven sea turtle species are threatened with extinction globally," said Dr Bryan Wallace, Director of Science for the Marine Flagship Species Program at CI, and lead author for the paper. "But this wasn't very helpful for conservation because it didn't help us set priorities for different populations in different regions. Sea turtles everywhere are conservation-dependent, but this framework will help us effectively target our conservation efforts around the world." ***(IUCN)***

Life & Style

‘The Simpsons’ is in danger in 23rd year

NEW YORK (AP)—In its 23rd year on TV, “The Simpsons” could be on the endangered species list.

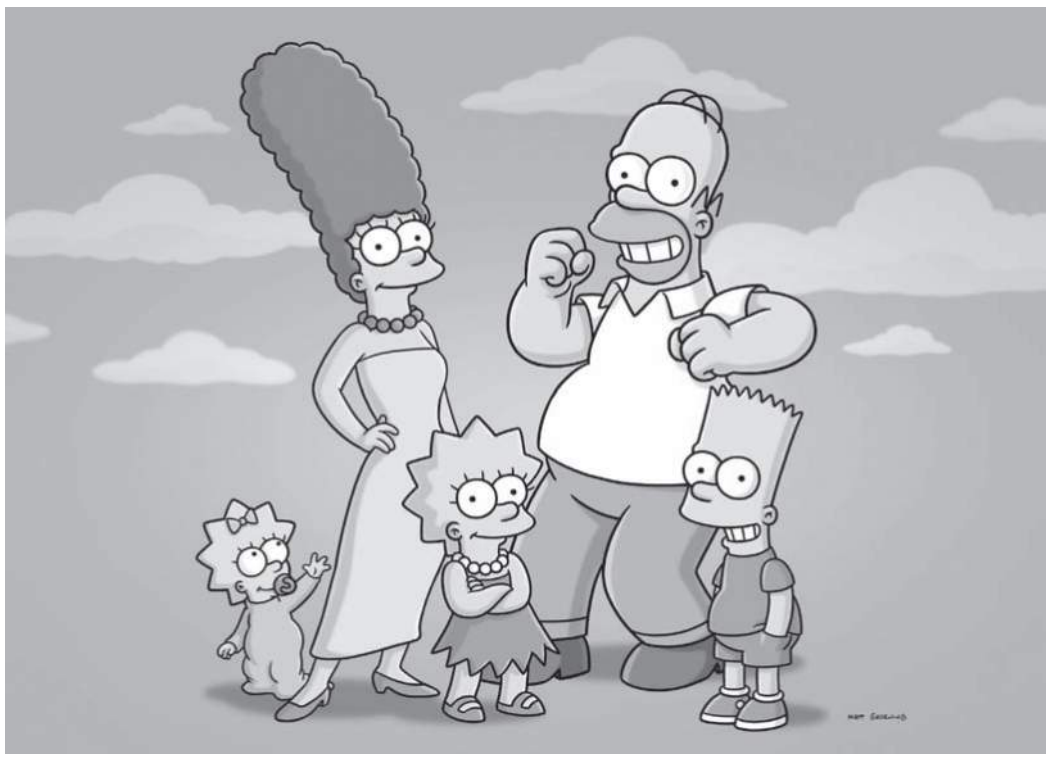
The show’s producer said Tuesday the show can’t continue under its current financial model, following a report that big pay cuts are being sought for the actors who provide voices for Homer, Marge and Bart Simpson and other characters.

“We believe this brilliant series can and should continue, but we cannot produce future seasons under its current financial model,” said Chris Alexander, spokesman for 20th Century Fox Television. He said producers hope a deal can be reached.

The animated series is a fixture on Fox’s Sunday night schedule, and critics consider it one of the best shows in the medium. But like many programs that have been on the air for a long time, the cost of making it has become prohibitive.

The Fox network reportedly loses money each year on new episodes, even as all the old episodes run in perpetuity in reruns and are a cash cow for producers and creators.

The Daily Beast reported Tuesday that producers are demanding a 45 percent pay cut from the six voice actors, who reportedly make nearly $8 million each for a season. The website said the voice actors have offered to take a 30 percent pay in return for a portion of the show’s syndication and merchandise revenue.



AP

In this undated publicity photo released by Fox, characters from the animated series, “The Simpsons,” from left, Maggie, Marge, Lisa, Homer and Bart, are shown.

Allan Mayer, a spokesman for one of the show’s voice actors, Harry Shearer, said he had no comment on the talks. The manager for Dan Castellaneta, the voice of Homer Simpson, told The Associated Press she didn’t know about the negotiations, and creator Matt Groening didn’t immediately return a phone call.

“The Simpsons” is averaging 7.1 million viewers for its new episodes this fall, down 14 percent from last year. Back in the 1991-92 season, an average of 21.7 million people watched it every week, Nielsen said.

The median age of the show’s viewers back two decades ago was 23, and this season it is still very young for a TV show—32, Nielsen said. That’s an indication of how the show has regenerated its audiences as the years go by.

“It’s still a very young and male audience, which is difficult to reach on broadcast TV,” said Brad Adgate, a researcher for Horizon Media. “Its longevity is due to that. They can charge a premium to reach that audience, and they do.”

Angelina Jolie considers new role with UN agency

GENEVA (AP)—Angelina Jolie is negotiating for a promotion at U.N. refugee agency where she now serves as a goodwill ambassador.

The actress said she and the agency are still working out the details of a new, expanded role for her in the worldwide refugee crisis.

Jolie

“We are looking at a few countries in the world,” Jolie told reporters. “We’re hoping to discuss it in the next few weeks but we want to research it properly.”

Among the roles under discussion is special envoy on the refugee crisis affecting Afghans fleeing for Pakistan and Iran, which host 2.7 million Afghan refugees.

Jolie is a globe-trotting goodwill ambassador for the U.N. refugee agency, visiting dozens of countries during her 10 years in the job.

U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres told the agency’s executive committee that the world-famous actress could serve as his special envoy “to mobilize strong international support” during particularly dire situations.

Jolie told diplomats Tuesday that her work for them has been “moving, sometimes heartbreaking, but always rewarding, and unforgettable.”

She described refugees she has met as “the most vulnerable people in the world, and they are also the most resilient people in the world.

“Refugees are survivors, they are mothers and daughters and fathers and sons, they are all extraordinary people who have a remarkable story that tells of strength in the face of great loss,” Jolie said. “They need our help more than ever.”

Hugh Grant: Reform needed after phone hacking saga

MANCHESTER, England (AP)—Actor Hugh Grant says Britain’s leader has told him he will support reforms of the country’s scandal-hungry media in the wake of the tabloid phone hacking scandal.

Grant, who suspects that his own cell phone voice mail messages were intercepted by journalists, has campaigned for tighter regulation of Britain’s news industry. He met Prime Minister David Cameron at the governing Conservative Party’s annual convention Tuesday while attending a fringe event on phone hacking.

Lord Justice Brian Leveson has said Grant is among a group of 46 people—along with Harry Potter creator JK Rowling, actress Sienna Miller, Formula One boss Max Mosley, and the parents of both missing girl Madeleine McCann and murdered schoolgirl Milly Dowler—who will participate in hearings on alleged media intrusion into their private lives.

The hearings will examine media ethics and likely suggest a new regulatory regime to replace the Press Complaints Commission.

The Commission—Britain’s current watchdog for the written media—is industry funded and can demand a newspaper publishes an apology, but has no power to issue fines.

Grant told a meeting on the sidelines of the Conservative Party’s annual rally Tuesday that Cameron has suggested he would take up Leveson’s findings.

“He said he felt as though as long as Leveson’s recommendations were not barking (mad), he’d be up for it. He’s a nice man, but we’ll see,” Grant told delegates.

The actor, who played a prime minister in the hit movie “Love Actually,” said Cameron appeared willing to make reforms—even if the changes are uncomfortable for his media allies.

“We had a sort of charm-off really,” Grant said. “He did make all the right noises, but I expected him to make all the right noises.”

Grant famously tangled with Britain’s tabloids in 1995 after he featured heavily on their front pages following his arrest in the United States for lewd conduct with a prostitute.

‘Playboy Club’ is TV season’s first cancellation

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC’s Playboy bunnies are being replaced by Brian Williams.

The network said Tuesday that its 1960s period piece drama “The Playboy Club” is being canceled, acting less than 24 hours after the new series drew only 3.5 million people for its third episode. It’s the first cancellation of the new fall TV season.

Williams’ new prime-time newsmagazine, “Rock Center,” will take over the 10 p.m. Eastern time slot on Mondays, starting Halloween night. Reruns of the drama “Prime Suspect” will fill the hour for the next three weeks.

“The Playboy Club” started weak, with 5 million viewers for its first episode, and didn’t improve.

Set in a Chicago club and evoking the era and attitude made fashionable by “Mad Men,” the drama was hurt by strong competition. Both “Hawaii 5-0” on CBS and “Castle” on ABC are their networks’ strongest 10 p.m. dramas, said Bill Gorman of the website TV By the Numbers. The viewership for “Castle” is up 8 percent over the first two weeks of last year, Nielsen said.

NBC’s drama drew some mixed reviews and protests by activists who tried to encourage an advertiser boycott, deeming the material inappropriate for network television.

Mike Hale of The New York Times wrote that the series was “an unwieldy and mostly humdrum combination of mob tale and backstage musical.”

In his pan, Steve Johnson of the Chicago Tribune harkened back to the magazine: “Like mean people or rainy Saturdays, the Playboy Club is, alas, a turn-off.”

Frazier Moore of The Associated Press, however, called the show “a plush escape” and selected it one of his 10 new shows worth watching.

Williams, NBC’s top news anchor, has been assembling talent in anticipation of a fall launch. “Rock Center” will feature Harry Smith and Kate Snow as correspondents, along with Meredith Vieira, Nancy Snyderman, Richard Engle, Matt Lauer and Ann Curry.

NBC had not given the show a time slot initially but promised one would become available when one of the new shows failed.

‘The 3 Musketeers in 3D’ holds London premiere

LONDON (AP)—Musketeers Athos, Porthos and Aramis on Tuesday swashbuckled their way down the red carpet at a London shopping center for the world premiere of “The Three Musketeers in 3D.”

Actors Matthew Macfadyen, Athos, Ray Stevenson, Porthos, and Luke Evans, Aramis, were joined at the launch by Logan Lerman, who plays their hot-headed archenemy, D’Artagnan, and a bevy of stars.

The family adventure—based on Alexandre Dumas’ historical novel of the same name—sees the 17th-century band of heroes set out to defend the French Queen’s honor and protect her country from war.

Director Paul W.S. Anderson of “Resident Evil” fame, told The Associated Press that the themes of the book have stood the test of time, and that his version of the classic story is different to its predecessors.

“Love, honor, courage, friendship, these are classic themes that never go out of style,” said Anderson. “But I think every generation deserves its own version of ‘The Three Musketeers.’ The story may stay the same, but the way it’s executed and brought to the screen will always differ.”

Anderson said with the advent of visual effects, he has been able “to bring to life 17th century Paris and London in a spectacular way that’s never been able to be done before.”

Largely shot on location in Bavaria, Germany, the film features former model turned actress Milla Jovovich as M’Lady De Winter.

The 35-year-old said utilizing 3D for the movie really helps to capture the audience’s imagination.

“The 3D aspect is really interesting because we shot in the most beautiful castles, in the most beautiful costumes and you really feel like you’re walking into some virtual reality time machine,” she said.

Jovovich also gushed about having the opportunity to work with director/husband Anderson again, referring to him as “an amazing captain of the ship.” The two were married in 2009 after meeting on the set of “Resident Evil,” which Anderson wrote and directed, and in which Jovovich starred.

“Oh I get spoilt working with Paul because it’s such a beautiful energy on set... He’s so technical, so organized, so kind and he really knows what he wants so it’s just amazing to be able to go on set with him,” she said.

“It’s always just a lot of fun,” she added. “You know we make fun movies together and people just have the best time.”

Hugh Jackman talks 'Real Steel,' 'Les Mis' and triple threats

MCT

Charlie Kenton (Hugh Jackman, left) gives instructions to Atom while his son, Max (Dakota Goyo) looks on in DreamWorks Pictures' action drama "Real Steel."

By ROGER MOORE
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

ORLANDO, Fla.—The label long ago coined for those who can act, sing and dance was "triple threat." But there aren't many of those folks working in the movies these days. Hugh Jackman is one. And whenever he gets nostalgic for Hollywood's "Golden Age" when triple threats walked the soundstages, he thinks of China.

"If you've been to China, every one of their movie stars sings," he says. "They sing live and have these huge concerts, promoting their movies.

"I think that's the way it used to be over here. In the Golden Age of Hollywood, those guys could sing. At least a little. Cary Grant, all those guys were put in musicals by the studios. Marlon Brando did a musical. Clint Eastwood did one. … And not only was it 'cool,' it was like, 'Well, you're not really an actor if you can't do a little song and dance.'"

Jackman sang and danced through an Oscar hosting gig that had the Academy Awards folks begging for more. He just signed to co-star opposite Russell Crowe in the "dream project," a big-screen version of the stage hit "Les Miserables." And in between acting gigs, he does concerts accompanied by a 17-piece orchestra.

"I sing and rehearse every single day," Jackman says. "I take singing lessons once a week. For me, it's about longevity. It's about continually getting better. Let's face it, I wasn't that talented."

What? The Tony winner who revived "Oklahoma!" to great acclaim, the Tony Awards host with the most, the once-and-future Wolverine, beloved the world over? Not "that talented"?

"When I first started acting, there was no, 'Oh, this guy's going to be a star, a HUGE star.' None of that. I actually thought I was going to get kicked out of the first drama school I went to. The teachers and my classmates always seemed to be rolling their eyes when I was up.

"I have had to work really hard at everything that I do in show business. I'm actually grateful for that. I've kept the work ethic I developed there. I don't take it for granted."

Jackman, who turns 43 later this month, also has a sense of film history and his place in it. He's done his Western ("Australia"), his romantic comedies ("Kate&Leopold") and his action pictures ("X-Men"). His boxing picture ("Real Steel")—another classic measure of every leading man's mettle—opens Friday.

"I had the good sense to do MY boxing picture without repeatedly getting hit in the head!" he jokes.

"Real Steel" is about a future in which boxing has become a sport of robots. Jackman plays an ex-fighter who operates a mismatched robot in winner-take-all underground bouts, trying to impress the son (Dakota Goyo) he never knew he had and doesn't seem to want.

Fans at websites such as Ain't It Cool News (aintitcool.com) have been rolling their eyes, nicknaming it "The Rock'Em Sock'Em Robots" movie. But site contributor Beaks says, "It they're going for a futuristic take on (the boxing classic) 'The Champ,' I might actually be looking forward to this."

Jackman was a hard sell on the movie, too. He says he read the plot description and thought, "'Awww, no. Don't think this is for me. Sounds like a big special-effects movie, as cool as that might be, doesn't sound that interesting.' But when I read the whole script, I thought, 'Whoa, this is actually about the characters, not the robots! It's like 'Rocky' meets 'Transformers.'' I started to see it as potentially this wonderful, rousing sports drama that I loved growing up. Little bits of 'The Champ,' 'Paper Moon,' all these movies that I loved. I had to be in it."

The film, based on a story that was a classic episode of Rod Serling's "Twilight Zone," might have seemed far-fetched in the 1960s. Today? It could even be prophetic.

"In the original story, boxing was outlawed, because people had been killed, right? (Director) Shawn Levy's take was 'Let's make it about people who are BORED with boxing. It's not violent ENOUGH. That's kind of where UFC (Ultimate Fighting Championship) and MMA (mixed martial arts) have come from. We're headed toward this boxing-with-the-gloves-off future. Let's go to town with that."

"Real Steel," with Jackman throwing punches just outside the ring as his battered old robot delivers them in the ring, has enough crowd-pleasing potential that DreamWorks started talking about a sequel back in the spring. Is Jackman, already bound to the X-Men/Wolverine film franchise, worried he might be tied to another?

"Oh, don't jinx it," he says with a laugh. "I'll find time. Wolverine sequels. 'Real Steel' sequels. And don't forget 'Les Mis' sequels!"

Jackson doctor's girlfriend talks calls, shipments

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Dr. Conrad Murray's complicated love life became entangled with the life and death of his patient Michael Jackson, prosecutors suggested Tuesday as they called a parade of women witnesses who received phone calls from the doctor as Jackson was near death.

The evidence was designed to show that the doctor was trying to juggle his medical practice, personal life and superstar patient all at the same time and was so distracted he failed to give Jackson proper care.

Murray's phone records from the day Jackson died were displayed in court as a backdrop for testimony of those at the other end of the cell phone calls. Three of them were current and former girlfriends and one was the manager of Murray's Houston office.

Nicole Alvarez, who lives with Murray and is the mother of his small son, was a key witness. She said she received a phone call from Murray as he rode in an ambulance beside Jackson's lifeless body on June 25, 2009.

"I remember him telling me that he was on the way to the hospital in an ambulance with Mr. Jackson and not to be alarmed," Alvarez said. "He was worried I would hear about it."

Three more calls to her were recorded that day but she didn't remember the conversations.

Alvarez was depicted as an unwitting conduit for Murray's purchases of the powerful anesthetic propofol which Jackson craved as a sleep aid. Murray is charged with involuntary manslaughter, accused of giving the star an overdose of the drug and failing to respond properly when he found him not breathing.

Murray has pleaded not guilty, and his attorneys claim Jackson took the fatal dose himself.

Alvarez recounted how she received many shipments of boxes for Murray in April, May and June 2009 but didn't open them and had no idea of their contents. The pharmacist who shipped them to her Santa Monica apartment from Las Vegas testified that he thought he was shipping to Murray's medical office.

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Dream House

Friday		4:05	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:35
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Mon thru Thurs		4:05	7:05	

Daniel Craig, Naomi Watts
Thriller • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
A successful New York writer (Daniel Craig) discovers that the country holds just as much menace as the big city after moving his family to a cozy New England town and discovering that their gorgeous new home was once the site of a brutal murder. The closer the writer and his wife (Rachel Weisz) get to their new neighbor (Naomi Watts), the more that details begin to emerge about the slaying of a devoted mother and her two children. Jim Sheridan (In America, Brothers) directs a script by David Loucka (The Dream Team, Problem Child).

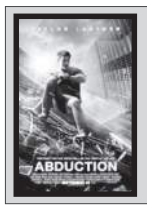
What's Your Number?

Friday		4:20	7:20	10:00
Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	10:00
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Mon thru Thurs		4:20	7:20	

Anna Faris, Chris Evans
Comedy • Rated R

Synopsis
Inspired by author Karyn Bosnak's novel 20 Times a Lady, director Mark Mylod's freewheeling comedy tells the tale of one hopelessly single women who's convinced she's passed up the man of her dreams. Upon reading a magazine article that leaves her dejected about her future marriage prospects, Ally Darling (Anna Faris) begins to fear that one of her many ex-boyfriends may have been "the one that got away." Now, with a little help from her mischievous neighbor (Chris Evans), Ally is paying a visit to each of her exes in order to reel in the perfect catch.

★ ★ ★



Abduction

Friday		4:15	7:15	9:50
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:50
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Mon thru Thurs		4:15	7:15	

Taylor Lautner, Alfred Molina
Thriller • Rated PG 13

Dolphin Tales

Friday		4:00	7:00	9:30
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:30
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Mon thru Thurs		4:00	7:00	

Morgan Freeman, Ashley Judd
Children's/family • Rated PG

Killer Elite

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:45
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:45
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Mon thru Thurs		4:10	7:10	

Robert De Niro, Clive Owen, Jason Statham
Action • Rated R

Drive

Friday		4:30	7:30	9:40
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	9:40
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Mon thru Thurs		4:30	7:30	

Ryan Gosling, Carey Mulligan
Thriller • Rated R

Contagion

Friday		4:25	7:25	9:55
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:55
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	
Mon thru Thurs		4:25	7:25	

Matt Damon, Marion Cottilard
Action • Rated PG 13

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Another 'Dancing' star heads for the hills

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kristin Cavallari is heading off into the hills. The reality starlet was dismissed from "Dancing With the Stars" Tuesday.

"I'm a little surprised, to be honest," the former star of MTV's "The Hills" said after learning her fate. "But I've had such a great time and it's been an awesome experience, so it is what it is."

She and professional partner Mark Ballas earned their highest scores of the season Monday, collecting 24 points for their sassy samba and tying for third place, but fans failed to keep them in the contest. Judges' scores are combined with viewer votes to determine which celebrity is ousted each week.

Basketball star Ron Artest, now known as Metta World Peace, and Italian actress Elisabetta Canalis were eliminated on previous episodes.

Chaz Bono, who landed in last place Monday, escaped elimination thanks to viewer votes.

"I wish I could thank each & every one of you personally for your votes," he wrote on Twitter Tuesday. "You are the reason (professional partner) Lacey Schwimmer and I ARE DANCING AGAIN next week!!"

Cher said Monday she would cheer on her son from the audience should he remain on the show another week.

Also returning to dance again next week will be Ricki Lake, Hope Solo, J.R. Martinez, Rob Kardashian, Nancy Grace, Chynna Phillips, Carson Kressley and David Arquette.

Tuesday's results show also included performances by Mary J. Blige, Estelle and a surprise appearance by Chubby Checker, who sang his 50-year-old hit, "The Twist."

Throat troubles cause Adele to cancel shows again

NEW YORK (AP)—Adele is again canceling concerts because of throat troubles.

Her 10-city U.S. concert run was to kick off in Atlantic City, N.J., on Friday and take her to cities including Nashville, Tenn., and Miami. But in a statement released Tuesday, those performances were canceled, blamed on a hemorrhage into her vocal chord.

The "Rolling in the Deep" singer canceled some U.S. concert dates in April because of laryngitis.

The best-selling British soul singer says she's "truly devastated" and annoyed. She says in the statement she has no choice but to rest and recuperate properly or risk permanent damage to her voice. She adds she's going to start vocal rehab soon. She apologizes to her fans.

Adele

Alicia Keys will write music for Broadway show

NEW YORK (AP)—Not content simply to follow Jay-Z and Will Smith into the world of Broadway producers, Alicia Keys will also compose original music for the upcoming production of "Stick Fly" on the Great White Way.

Producers said Tuesday that the musician and singer, whose hits include "Fallin'" and "A Woman's Worth," will offer her songwriting to the play by Lydia R. Diamond. Performances begin Nov. 18 at the Cort Theatre.

Keys

The work is a contemporary comedy of manners revolving around an affluent black family whose insecurities gradually unravel during a vacation. The cast includes Dule Hill ("Psych," "The West Wing") and Tony Award-winner Ruben Santiago-Hudson.

Keys already had signed on to help produce the work. Previously, Jay-Z, Will Smith and wife Jada Pinkett Smith helped produce the musical "Fela!"

AP

In this promotional photo released by Disney Pixar Animation, Dory, lower left, and Marlin, lower right, face an ocean full of perils in their efforts to rescue Nemo in this scene from Pixar Animation Studios :Finding Nemo."

'Nemo,' 'Mermaid,' 'Beast' and 'Monsters' go 3-D

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Finding Nemo," "The Little Mermaid" and two other animated Walt Disney tales are following "The Lion King" into 3-D mode on the big-screen.

Disney announced Tuesday that the 3-D reissues will begin Jan. 13 with 1991's "Beauty and the Beast," the first animated feature ever nominated for best picture at the Academy Awards.

The studio will follow with 3-D re-releases of 2003's "Finding Nemo" on Sept. 14 of next year, 2001's "Monsters, Inc." on Jan. 18, 2013, and 1989's "The Little Mermaid" on Sept. 13, 2013. "Monsters University," a 3-D prequel to "Monsters Inc.," comes out June 21, 2013.

Disney's 1994 hit "The Lion King" far exceeded the studio's expectations in a 3-D theatrical reissue, pulling in $80 million domestically since debuting Sept. 16.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

John Lennon's TM letter to fan on auction block

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—An online auction house is selling a 1967 letter that John Lennon wrote to a fan who had inquired about transcendental meditation. Nate D. Sanders Auctions of Santa Monica says the handwritten letter is expected to fetch $25,000 to $30,000. Bidding closes Oct. 11. In the letter, Lennon tells Jean Harrison she is "searching for something (truth) the same as everyone else." He says the Beatles were lucky to have met Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, but that other teachers could instruct her. And he gives her the address of a school in London. Last month, Sanders sold a contract for a Beatles concert for more than $23,000. The pact, for a 1965 concert in San Francisco, stated the group would not perform for a segregated audience.

Academy, LACMA take step toward movie museum

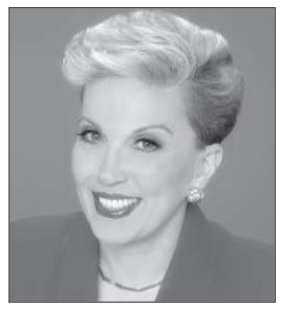
BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art have taken a step toward establishing a museum dedicated to motion pictures. In a joint statement Tuesday night, the Academy's Board of Governors and LACMA's Board of Trustees announced an agreement to sign a memorandum of understanding to establish a movie museum at the former May Company building, now known as LACMA West. The memorandum clears the way for the two organizations to discuss details of a contract and for the Academy to begin developing plans for fundraising, design, exhibitions, visitor experience and modifications to the 300,000 square-foot building. The statement says the Academy hopes to sign a long-term lease for the facility and will retain autonomy over all aspects of the museum.

Microsoft kills Zune media player line after 5 yrs

NEW YORK (AP)—Microsoft is discontinuing the Zune media player, which it launched five years ago in the hope of taking on the iPod. The player was well reviewed when it launched in 2006, and it grabbed as much as 10 percent of the market for media players. But enthusiasm faded, and the Zune has become one of many failed iPod wannabes. Microsoft Corp. hasn't released a major update to the line in two years. Some of the look and functionality of the Zune has been moved over to Microsoft's smartphone software, which it says "will be the focus of our mobile music and video strategy." Microsoft says it will continue to support existing players.

Vast majority of readers would have children again

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: In response to your poll (Aug. 24), "If you had it to do over again, would you have children?" my answer is, "I SURE WOULD!" Being a parent made me a better, more tolerant, more patient person and more willing to take risks.

It wasn't always easy. My son's father left me when I was four months pregnant. With the help of my dear mother, I returned to work, completed my college degree and became a schoolteacher. I have so many wonderful memories. My son is grown now and works with special needs children, and I am proud of the man he has become.

MOM IN SAN DIEGO

DEAR MOM: Your feelings reflect the opinions of 78 percent of my readers, who voted yes to that question. The mail I received was profoundly touching. My newspaper readers comment:

DEAR ABBY: I'm sitting in my oncologist's office, waiting to be seen. Tomorrow is one year since I finished chemotherapy.

Would I have children again? Absolutely. My husband and three amazing sons have brought so much love, joy and happiness to my life. It would have been hard living through two bouts of cancer 10 years apart, a mastectomy, chemo, radiation, surgery and hopelessness without these wonderful men in my life. They encouraged and supported me all along the way.

Childbirth was painful, but if I was told I had to go through it again every month to have my children, I'd do it. Knowing I helped to create them makes me feel incredibly blessed.

JEANNE IN BONITA SPRINGS, FLA.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 44-year-old black woman. I feel a deep gratitude and am privileged to be a mother to my two daughters. I get to help shape and mold them and see how they bloom.

My journey to my girls was through adoption. God gave me a wonderful gift when we were placed together. Parenting is challenging and hard. Anyone who thinks differently is mistaken. But it's something I'm proud of and love wholeheartedly.

My sister has asked me on two separate occasions if I regret my decision. Never!

EVA IN PHOENIX

DEAR ABBY: If I could go back, I would not do it again. My children are beautiful, smart, caring and funny. I loved doting on them when they were little. However, I never realized what was coming—that as teenagers they'd be needy, selfish, costly and ungrateful. Nothing is ever good enough. I get the brunt of the bad moods, the hateful words and the cold shoulders.

Had I known how hard this was going to be and the sacrifices I'd have to make, I would have said no. If I had any idea that I'd love them so much that their pain is my pain, I would have said no.

ANONYMOUS IN TEXAS

DEAR ABBY: My answer is an emphatic NO! I love my son and care for my stepchildren, but for the few joys that I have received it wasn't worth the heartaches.

I have spoken to many parents about this. They all seem to feel the same. These adult children have a sense of entitlement and no respect. Frankly, I should have raised dogs!!!

NO NAME IN GEORGIA

DEAR ABBY: Would I have children again? Absolutely, every one of them from my first, who is a special needs child who may never be able to live independently, to the youngest, who was only 4 when his dad left. The only change I'd make is I would have them with someone other than their dad, who just wasn't up to the job of being a parent.

WISER NOW IN MINNESOTA

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

WANT TO GO SPELUNKING WITH ME?
SPELUNKING? THERE AREN'T ANY CAVES AROUND HERE!
YOU DON'T NEED A CAVE. ALL YOU NEED IS A ROCK.
SPELUNK!
WATTERSON

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

IT SAYS HERE THAT CATS CAN LEAVE YOU AS EASILY AS THEY'LL LOVE YOU
NOT TO WORRY
I'M NOT ALL THAT FOND OF YOU, BUT I'M TOO LAZY TO LEAVE
JIM DAVIS 10-6

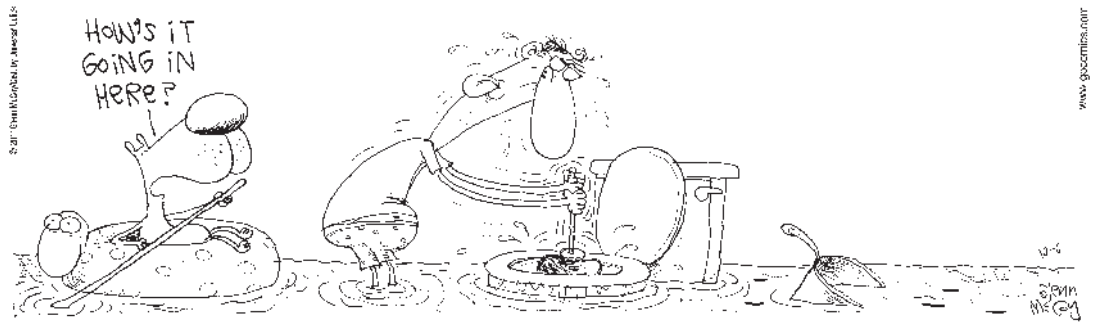
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

CAN I PLAY FANTASY FOOTBALL SOMEDAY?
SURE.
DO I NEED TO BE SMART LIKE YOU?
ONLY IF YOU WANT TO FINISH IN LAST PLACE.
SERIOUSLY, HOW CAN RANDY BE AHEAD OF ME?
AT THE DRAFT, HE MENTIONED HOW PROUD FLORENCE HENDERSON MUST BE OF TOM BRADY!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Engrossed
5 Old man
8 Rabbit's tail
12 Wrinkly fruit
13 Japanese sash
14 "My bad"
15 Let fall
16 Joker
17 — -tat-tat
18 Ohio city
20 Tailor, humorously
22 Frequently
23 Speck
24 Freeway access
27 Adverse
32 Hearty brew
33 Author Santha Rama —
34 Sundial numeral
35 Hat seller
38 Automaker Ransom Eli —
39 Pitch
40 Sine qua —
42 It had a big part in the Bible
45 Masticated
49 Famous cookie man
50 Egg-yung link
52 Made on a loom
53 New Zealand symbol
54 Coach Parseghian
55 Mat melody
56 Coastal flyer
57 Deterioration
58 Holler

DOWN
1 "Our Idiot Brother" star Paul
2 Taj Mahal city
3 Tactic
4 Excellent
5 Business decline
6 Lawyers' org.
7 Uses a shovel
8 "Parting is such sweet —"
9 Man's jacket feature
10 Doing
11 Despot
19 "— Thee I Sing"
21 Fuss
24 Aries
25 Clay, today
26 Loss of self-control
28 Dundee denial
29 Traitor
30 Disencumber
31 Insult (Sl.)
36 Legendary TV pooch
37 Anger
38 Unilateral
41 "I see"
42 Croupier's tool
43 Eastern potentate
44 Somewhere out there
46 Had on
47 Maleficent
48 Transaction
51 Acapulco gold

Solution time: 25 mins.

B	O	N	D	■	E	G	O	■	A	V	O	W
O	B	O	E	■	M	O	O	■	M	E	N	U
B	I	G	M	O	U	T	H	■	A	R	C	S
S	T	O	O	D	■	■	S	I	I	M	F	S
■	■	■	T	E	A	S	■	O	N	O	■	■
W	I	P	E	■	B	U	R	N	■	U	S	A
A	L	L	■	A	L	G	A	E	■	T	E	D
S	L	Y	■	C	Y	A	N	■	C	H	E	Z
■	■	M	U	M	■	R	I	N	D	■	■	■
S	O	O	N	E	R	■	■	A	R	D	O	R
O	P	U	S	■	Y	A	R	M	O	U	T	H
F	E	I	A	■	E	W	E	■	M	E	I	E
A	C	H	Y	■	S	E	X	■	S	T	O	A

Yesterday's answer 10-6

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12				■	13			■	14			
15				■	16			■	17			
18				19		■	20	21				
■	■	■	22			■	■	23			■	■
24	25	26		■	27	28	29				30	31
32			■	■	33			■	■	34		
35			36	37				■	38			
■	■	39			■	■	40	41		■	■	■
42	43				44	■	45			46	47	48
49				■	50	51		■	52			
53				■	54			■	55			
56				■	57			■	58			

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99c per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jeremy Sisto, 37; Amy Jo Johnson, 41; Elisabeth Shue, 48; Britt Ekland, 69.

Happy Birthday: Make life changes that will enable you to reach your creative dreams. You are long overdue for a little excitement, and coordinating your work and playtime will help you prosper. Love and creativity are highlighted. Your numbers are 4, 10, 16, 27, 34, 44, 47.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Socialize, network and mix and mingle with people who share your interests. Your ideas and adaptability will entice someone who can help you complete your life, personally or professionally. Love is highlighted, and a promise made will lead to greater stabilization. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Hold on to your cash and refrain from donating time to an organization pressuring you to contribute. Anger and stubbornness will not get you what you want, but hard work and concentrating on your own goals will. Now is the time to invest in you. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You can reach your goals. Your imagination, charm and intelligence will help you outshine anyone who opposes you. Turn something you love to do into a profitable commodity. Love is on the rise, and special plans should be made for the evening hours. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Choose wisely. Don't let anyone coerce you into doing something you don't want to do. You can learn a lot from someone with greater experience, but you don't have to become a devotee. Follow your own path and you will gain the respect you deserve. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Friends and family will comply when you need a little extra help. Someone you love will be ready to make a commitment to you regarding domestic and family affairs. Plan a mini vacation that will allow you to mull over your next move. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Avoid taking on responsibilities that don't belong to you. Concentrate on what really matters. Give advice, rather than cash or your time. Stick to your own agenda and you will make your life better financially, emotionally and personally. Put you first. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Call the shots and you will be successful. Don't procrastinate when there is so much you can do to improve your life and your current situation. Love is on the rise, and socializing will bring you greater opportunities, personally and professionally. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't let jealousy rear its ugly head. Look at what you have to offer and do your best to use your talents and skills to the fullest. Your success will be your sweetest revenge. Self-improvement projects will set you up for success. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You can talk your way to advancement. Your charm, knowledge and ability to express your ideas with a colorful flair will set you apart from any competition you face. Love and romance are highlighted and will improve your current personal and domestic life. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You'll learn a lesson by reliving past experiences. Remembering what you've done wrong will save you from making a mistake. Anger is a waste of time. Do your best to improve your domestic situation. Take care of personal business. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Tie up loose ends. You can turn an old idea into a viable source of income. Concentrate on home, family, finances and investing in you and your talents. It's time to put the pressure on others in order to get what you want. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): If you want a partnership to work, you have to be honest about what you want and what you expect in return. Approach someone from your past with caution. Depending on how you parted, this person will help or hinder you. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intuitively intelligent, creative, trendy and unique.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		3		1				
	2		8		9	7		
6		5						
			6			9		1
1				7				8
8		7			3			
						3		2
		2	7		5		4	
				4		6		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/06

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

3	4	6	2	1	9	8	7	5
1	5	8	7	4	6	9	2	3
7	9	2	3	8	5	6	4	1
9	1	5	8	2	3	4	6	7
4	2	7	9	6	1	5	3	8
8	6	3	4	5	7	1	9	2
2	8	1	6	7	4	3	5	9
5	3	4	1	9	2	7	8	6
6	7	9	5	3	8	2	1	4

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SUBMIT YOUR RESUME Solution: 8 letters

R	E	D	E	S	E	S	C	(F)	L	L	S	E	T	B
M	E	M	N	L	U	O	T	L	(I)	A	D	X	R	R
A	A	Q	P	U	L	B	A	A	L	(L)	E	N	E	O
N	D	M	U	L	O	C	M	A	M	T	(E)	U	E	W
Y	A	D	E	I	O	R	R	I	N	P	N	V	R	S
S	A	G	R	M	R	Y	G	E	T	I	I	S	A	E
E	E	T	P	E	F	E	M	K	V	T	E	M	C	X
P	S	A	T	O	S	E	M	E	C	C	I	O	L	P
O	N	O	R	R	C	S	R	E	N	A	N	N	R	E
Y	N	M	P	A	I	S	J	E	N	T	B	O	G	R
Y	A	L	L	M	I	B	R	P	A	T	C	S	B	I
T	L	P	I	T	O	E	U	C	E	E	I	O	U	E
S	O	P	Y	N	F	C	T	T	S	T	A	T	I	N
O	Y	E	P	E	E	M	U	S	E	R	S	R	L	C
P	H	C	R	A	E	S	R	E	D	N	E	G	D	E

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Address, Apply, Attribute, Background, Board, Browse, Build, Call, Career, College, Company, Compose, Contact, Employment, Experience, File, Format, Gender, Mail, Many, Name, Objective, Online, Placement, Post, Process, References, Requirement, Resume, Salary, Sample, Search, Send, Site, Stamp, Step, Submitting, Text, Title, University

Yesterday's Answer: Mollusk

SALE. Hardcover Wonderword books appear in paperback form on the pages of the daily newspaper. For unlimited online access to today's puzzle, visit wordsearch.$1.tv, exclusively engaged by Universal Uclick. Inquire about group rates for back-to-school, $1 per year sale! Add a gift book, send for a free sample, 1564 Kuhio St., Honolulu, HI, 96814. Or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

3A'S POLYSHINE is looking for:

2 UPHOLSTERERS
- Considerable knowledge of the practices, methods, tools, materials, and equipment for upholstering.
- Some knowledge of the occupational hazards of upholstering work and of necessary safety precautions.
- Ability to make upholstery and other repairs to furniture and interiors of vehicles.
- Skill in the selection of upholstery materials and in use and care of upholstery tools and equipment.
- Salary: $5.05/hour (CNMI minimum wage)

3 TINTER (window film installer)
- Considerable knowledge of the industrial practices of adhesive window films installation.
- Ability to work with varieties of window films and window glass surfaces and must not afraid of heights.
- Ability to work independent with minimum supervision.
- Salary: $5.05/hour (CNMI minimum wage)

Interested individuals must be willing to undergo practical testing for position qualification. All interested applicants must submit resume before October 10, 2011 at 3A'S PLOYHSINE, Tel: 235-8938 located at Mike's Building, Beach Road, next to Car Quest Auto Parts, CK.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
CALVARY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING OPENINGS

Administrative Assistant

MUST HAVE
- Computer skills and be proficient in Microsoft Apps
- Strong general record keeping background & experience
- Student record keeping experience
- A minimum of 3 years experience in bookkeeping
- A clear understanding of Federal and CNMI tax laws
- A minimum of 3 years financial management experience
- The ability to prepare financial reports
- Effective communication skills with parents and students

Salary: $950.00 per month

Elementary Teacher

MUST HAVE
- A minimum of 3 years experience teaching upper elementary
- A strong background in and experience with Abeka Book Curriculum
- A Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education

Salary: $1,500.00 per month

Grounds Keeper and Maintenance

MUST HAVE
- At least a high diploma
- Ability to maintain large scale grounds and building operations
- Basic skills needed in general maintenance and repair
- Experience in overall industrial grounds maintenance
- Experience in overall industrial building maintenance

Salary: $890.00 per month

Cook

MUST HAVE
- Strong background in culinary skills
- Large scale meal preparations skills
- Dietary management skills
- Kitchen management experience
- Industrial kitchen experience

Salary: $828.00 per month

INDIVIDUALS APPLYING FOR AND WORKING IN THE ABOVE POSITIONS MUST
1. Adhere to all church and school policies
2. Submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the church and school
3. BE ACTIVE and FAITHFUL MEMBERS OF CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
4. Provide his or her own housing, food, and transportation

Interested applicants can come to the school and pick up an application.
Applications and resumes must be received before October 19, 2011.
Completed applications must be submited to Calvary Christian Academy in Chalan Kiya, Saipan
For further information please call 234-6026

Grace Christian Academy
is looking for:

Registrar (1)

Qualifications
Minimum 2 years experience in a Christian School;
Proficient in computer skills: excel, Word, Photoshop;
Proficient in filing/record-keeping;
Communication skills: community, parents, various ethnic groups;
Minimum 2 years experience in a Christian School;
Must be willing to submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the school;
Must adhere to all school policies and procedure.
Salary: $5.05 - $9.25

Pre-school teacher. (1)

Qualifications
Holder of Bachelor's degree preferably Early Childhood Education;
At least 2 years teaching experience in Early Childhood education, preferably in a Christian school;
Must be ACSI certified;
Must be willing to submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the school;
Must adhere to all school policies and procedure;
Salary: $5.05 - $7.71

Substitute Teacher (1)

Holder of a BA degree;
Must be flexible with substituting in any grade level;
Must be willing to submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the school;
Must adhere to all school policies and procedure;
Preferably ACSI certified.
Salary: $5.05 - $9.32

Bookkeeper (2)

Holder of Bachelor's degree preferably in Accounting;
At least 2 years experience preferably in a Christian atmosphere;
Can work independently and less supervision;
Must be willing to submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the school;
Must adhere to all school policies and procedure;
Knowledge in School Minder/Accountrak programs preferred.
Salary: $5.05 - $8.58

Maintenance – Repairer

Must have at least 2 years experience as ground/building maintenance;
Must be at least high school graduate;
Must be willing to submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the school
Must adhere to all school policies and procedure.
Salary: $5.05 - $7.89

2 Elementary School Teachers
1 Middle School Teacher
2 High School Teachers G9-G12)

Qualifications
Holder of Bachelor's degree in education or related field; major in any one of these subjects for middle school and High school, Math, Science, English;
At least 2 years teaching experience preferably in a Christian school;
Must be ACSI certified;
Must be willing to submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the school;
Must adhere to all school policies and procedure;
Salary: $5.19 - $18.26/hour

Business Administrator:

Holder of Bachelor's degree in Business Administration major in Accounting;
At least 5 years experience in a managerial capacity in the area of finance, and general services preferably in a Christian atmosphere;
Must be able to direct and administer financial/administrative operations of the organization;
Must be able to formulate & implement financial policies and procedures in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
Must be able to prepare, analyze, and interpret financial reports;
Must be willing to submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the school;
Must adhere to all school policies and procedure;
Salary: $7.75 - $24.64/hour

Interested applicants may download application form at www.gca-nmi.com
Submit completed application to Grace Christian Academy, Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
GCA is accredited with the Association of Christian Schools International

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

WHATZIT Solution: Can't see the woods for the trees

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
(1) **Baker** – Must have at least 5yrs working experience. Flexible time schedule. Salary $5.05 - $6.00/hr.
(1) **House worker** – Must have 2yrs experience. Honest & trustworthy.

Send resume at P.O. Box 501540 or apply at Dandan Bakery, Danday Rd. Tel.: 288-8288.

WANTED
FARMER
at least 5 years experience
Please call 233-6183

WANTED
Cleaner, Interior & Grounds
3 positions available
Call 287-2757 for interview

FOR SALE

09' White-Toyota Camry • Mileage-24,500 • Price-$15,500
09' Toyota Corrolla • Mileage-33,000 • Price-$12,500. Both in EXCELLENT condition! If interested Call 287-7676.

EMPLOYMENT

1-hairdresser or hairstylist. 1-housekeeping or domestic helper. Submit resume at LKR Rosa Corp. Katchu-Tataga St., San Antonio. Contact Rosa at tel.: 235-7850

US workers only. Optician, Medical Biller, Maint. & Repair Worker, Domestic Worker. Apply in person @ Marianas Eye Institute. No phone calls pls.

1 Barber, w/ 2 yrs experience, pleasing personality w/ good moral character. Inquiry, Call Genoveva's Hair Power, Inc. at 234-6378 or 234-9226.

3 fishermen bottom, trolling and diving. 6 mos. experience, minimum salary. Send resume to SFC P.O.Box 10005 Saipan, MP 96950

2-All Around Beauticians. Modern

Venture Transportation Corp
is currently seeking a
FULL TIME AUTO MECHANIC
Maintain Fleet of 30+ cars
Clean Driving Record • Auto Mechanic s Knowledge • Minimum of 5 Years experience • Fluent in English and Japanese preferred
Fax resume to 288-3347 or mail to PMB 699 P.O. Box 100001 Saipan MP 96950

1-Architect
Degree required, 5yr. experience
utility residential design
ACAD v2011 proficient $10-$11/hr
Azuma Ltd. 256-6831

FRANKIE'S AUTO AND TOW SERVICES
JOB VACANY ANNOUNCEMENT

Full Time Mechanic
- Must be able to diagnose engine problems accurately, make repairs and perform maintenance work on a vehicle.
- Must be knowledgeable in over-hauling vehicle engine.
- Must have knowledge in electrical and transmission repair
- 6-7 years of work experience is required

Interested applicants must pick up an application at Frankie's Auto and Tow Services in As Perdido or contact telephone numbers (670) 235-4448/287-4448

EMPLOYMENT

Hair Salon & Barber Shop. San Jose. Call Mau at 234-1440

1 Electronic Technician. $5.05-$6.50/hr & 1 Commercial Cleaner $5.05-$6.50/hr for inquiry call Cleo 234-9199. Champstar Trading Corporation

8 Janitors & Cleaners. Salary-$5.05-$5.50/hr. MTO Maintenance (Saipan), Inc. Email resume to: admin@mtosaipan.com

2 Generator Techinician. Salary-$5.05 - $14.00/hr. Elliott Systems LLC. Email resume to: jeff@elliott-systemsllc.com

1-General Manager $1,800.00-$ 2,500.00/mo. Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or BA. PSG Professional Corp. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

1 – Accountant $ 7.25-$ 13.00/hr. Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. PSG Professional Corp. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

1–Real Estate Appraiser $7.25 - $11.00/hr. Must be Licensed General Appraiser. PSG Professional Corp. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

1 Office Manager $5.05-$5.50/hr.

Vacancy Announcement

Caregiver/housekeeper/office maintenance. - Cleans and maintains business office & residence. Also monitors daily medications, prepares meals and laundry for a senior citizen with mild disabilities. Separate living accommodations provided. 3 to 5 years experience preferable.

Interested US applicants call 233-3339 on weekends or 233-6011 between 7PM and 8PM weekdays. Please leave a voice mail name and number. McPhetres Consulting.

EMPLOYMENT

w/ 5 yrs exp in PIII/Quick Books Acctg. PSG Professional Corp. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

3–Bookkeepers $5.05-$5.50/hr. w/ 2 yrs exp of PII/Quick Books Acctg. PSG Professional Corp. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

1–Insurance Sales Agent $5.05-$5.50/hr. w/ minimum 2 yrs experience. PSG Professional Corp. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

3–Janitors & Cleaners. Salary - $5.05 - $5.50/hr. PSG Professional Corp. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

1 General Manager $2,000.00-$2,500.00/mo. At least 5 years experience . Dae Dong Corp. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

1 Accountant $7.25 - $12.69/hr. Bachelors Degree in Accounting or BA. Pacific Dev. Inc. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

1 Travel Guide $7.25-$8.92/hr. At least 5 years experience. Pacific Dev. Inc. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

1 Tour Guide Salary - $7.25-$8.00/hr. At least 5 years experience. Pacific Dev. Inc. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

2- Fisherman (Bottom / Trolling / Diving), at least 6 mos. experience required • Minimum Salary. Send you resume to SMJ Corporation, P.O. Box 503944 Saipan MP 96950

1–Automotive Electrician. Salary$5.05-$8.25 per hour. Minimum of 5 yrs. experience. Email resume to saipan@aiconstruction.com

1–Estimator. Salary $1,200.00 - $1,824.00 per month. Civil Engineer / Estimator degree required. Email resume to saipan@aiconstruction.com

Grace Christian Academy Tinian Campus
is looking for:

2 Elementary School Teachers and 2 Junior High Teachers – Full Time
Qualifications:
- Must be a holder of Bachelor's degree with at least 2 years teaching experience, preferably in a Christian School
- Must be willing to submit previous employer reference (non-relative) providing a proven track record for timeliness, excellent work ethic and job/personal responsibility.
- Must accept without verbal or mental reservations both the Statement of Faith and the education/doctrinal beliefs and objectives of the school (Grace Christian Academy) and the church (Tinian Christian Assembly of God)
- Must Adhere to all school and church policies and procedures and be willing to perform various other duties outside a classroom setting if need be.

Salary: $5.05/hour

1 School Custodian worker – Part Time – 25 hours per week
Qualifications:
- Must have a high school diploma or equivalent and at least 2 years experience as a school custodian having experience maintaining/overseeing all day to day facility operations of a school including grounds keeping, general building maintenance and various other school and student related responsibilities.
- Must be willing to submit previous employer references (non-relative) providing a proven track record for timeliness, excellent work ethic and job/personal responsibility.
- Must accept without verbal or mental reservations both the Statement of Faith and the educational/doctrinal beliefs and objectives of the school (Grace Christian Academy) and the church (Tinian Christian Assembly of God)
- Must adhere to all school and church policies and procedures and be willing to perform various other duties outside regular job duties if need be.

Salary: $5.05/hour

Applications may be downloaded at www.gca-nmi.com
Please submit completed applications to:
Grace Christian Academy – Tinian / PO Box 520422 by mail or in person
GCA is a member of the Association of Christian Schools International

Grace Christian Academy Rota Campus
is looking for:

1 Preschool Teacher
Holder of high School Diploma and at least 2 years teaching experience preferably in a Christian School

1 Elementary School Teacher
Holder of Bachelor's degree in education or related field; at least 2 years teaching experience preferably in a Christian School;
- Must be willing to submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the school;
- Must adhere to all school policies and procedures;

Salary: $5.05/hour

Interested applicants may download application form at www.gca-nmi.com
Submit completed applications to:
Grace Christian Academy, Sinapalo 1, Rota, MP 96951
GCA is a member of the Association of Christian Schools International

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT-WINCHELL'S DONUTS

a. 1 vacancy for **Store Manager**. Wage range $7.50 per hour and up, depending on qualifications. College level. Must have at least 5 years of continued experience in managing bakery or similar operations. Must be able to manage 15 or more people and more than 1 store. Must be computer literate. Must know how to operate a cash register or POS system. Able to converse in basic Japanese or other foreign languages highly preferred.

b. 3 vacancies for **Store Supervisor**. Wage range $5.25 to $7.50 per hour depending on qualifications. College level, or an equivalent of at least 4-5 years of continued experience in supervising bakery operations. Must know how to operate a cash register or POS system. Must be customer-service oriented. Must be computer literate. Must be confident in doing basic mathematical skills. Able to converse in basic Japanese or other foreign languages highly preferred.

c. 8 vacancies for **Sales Associates**. Wage range $5.05 to $5.25 per hour. High school level, or an equivalent of at least 4-5 years of continued experience in sales. Must know how to operate a cash register or POS system. Must be customer-service oriented. Must be computer literate. Must be confident in doing basic mathematical skills. Must be able to read, write and speak basic English. Able to converse in basic Japanese or other foreign languages highly preferred.

d. 6 vacancies for **Donut Makers/Bakers**. Wage range $5.05 to $5.25 per hour. High school level, or an equivalent of at least 3 years experience in baking. Knowledge in operating a cash register or POS system preferred. Must be customer-service oriented. Must be able to lift at least 50 lbs. Must be confident in doing basic mathematical skills. Must be able to read, write and speak basic English. Able to converse in basic Japanese or other foreign languages highly preferred.

Additional requirements: All applicants must be of good health and good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to provide current police and court clearance, must be able to obtain health certificate, must have a reliable transportation and must agree to a drug test.

Please get application forms and submit them at our Winchell's Garapan location or email them to dennys@guam.net

EMPLOYMENT

1–Construction Supervisor.Salary $5.05 - $8.52 per hour. Minimum of 5 yrs. experience. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

1–Heavy Equipment Mechanic. Salary $5.05 per hour. Minimum of 5 yrs. experience. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

2–Project Engineer. Salary $1,200.00-$3,000.00 per month. Civil Engineer/ Project Engineer College Degree required. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

1 –Welder. Salary $5.05 per hour. Minimum of 5 yrs. experience. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

1–Accountant. Salary $1,200.00-$2,250.00 per month. College Degree required with 5 yrs. experience. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

1–Painter. Salary $ 5.05 per hour. Minimum of 5 yrs. experience. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

EMPLOYMENT

4–Heavy Equipment Operator. Salary $5.05 - $6.75 per hour. Minimum of 5 years experience. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

1–Architect. Salary $1,200.00-$2,250.00 per month. College degree required with 5 yrs. experience. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

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2-Farmer, 1 yr Aquaculture experience preferred. Call (670) 287-1170 or send resume to Matsumoto Trust at P.O. Box 5057 CHRB Saipan, MP 96950.

ASC Construction is looking for 1-Project Manager-$16.92/hr.-$17.00/hr. Must have Bachelor's Degree in Engineering. Min. 10 years experience as Project Manager. Mail resume to PMB 885 Box 10001, Saipan MP 96950. No phone calls please

ASC Construction is looking for the following (1) Bookkeeper, (1) Carpenter, (1) Electrician, (1) Plumber, (3) HE Operator. Interested applicants must mail their resume to PMB 885 Box 10001, Saipan MP 96950. No phone calls please.

EMPLOYMENT

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(2)Assistant Managers, (4) Supervisors. At least two years experience as Asst Manager or Supervisor. Must have valid HACCP Certification or equivalent Food Safety Training. No phone calls please. E-mail resume to psgspn@gmail.com RE: BARNY'S

(2) Bookkeepers. At least 2 yrs experience in food service business accounting. Knowledgeable in PIII Acctg Inventory & Costing. No phone calls please. E-mail resume to psgspn@gmail.com RE: BARNY'S

(2) Stock Clerks. At least 2 yrs experience food service business. Must have knowledge of HACCP Food Industry Safety Procedures. No phone calls please. E-mail resume to psgspn@gmailcom RE: BARNY'S

(1) Production Control Coordinator. Must be knowledgeable in setting up computer systems program. Must be HACCP Certified or knowledgeable in Food Safety Industry Grade Process. No phone calls please. E-mail resume to psgspn@gmailcom RE: BARNY'S

EMPLOYMENT

(3) Cooks, (4) Assistant Cooks, (9) Food Prep Workers. At least 2 yrs experience in Volume Food Production of 500 or more pax. Must have knowledge of HACCP food prep procedure. No phone calls please. E-mail resume to psgspn@gmailcom RE: BARNY'S

(12) Cafeteria Food Attendants. Must have knowledge of HACCP procedure in food service. Must have a valid BEH food handler's certificate. No phone calls please. E-mail resume to psgspn@gmailcom RE: BARNY'S

1-Accountant Bookeeper/Computer Operator - $5.05-$5.50 w/ 6 yrs exp & knowledge in Acctng & Taxes. Japanese Foods import/export docs related. Mail resume to SPE Saipan Box 502696 Saipan MP 96950

1–General Manager $910.00/bi-weekly. Min. of 5 yrs experience. Fluent in Korean. Fax resume to 234-9796

EMPLOYMENT

1–Accountant-$5.05 - $5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs. exp in Peachtree/Quickbook Acctng. Fax resume to 234-9796

2–H.E. Operator $5.05 - $5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs experience. Fax resume to 234-9796

1–H.E. Mechanic $5.05 - $5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs experience. Fax resume to 234-9796

4–Electrician $5.05 - $5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs exp. bldg. electrician. Fax resume to 234-9796

1–Plumber $5.05 - $5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs experience. Fax resume to 234-9796

1–Carpenter $5.05 - $5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs experience. Fax resume to 234-9796

1–Commercial Cleaner $5.05/hr. Min. of 5 yrs experience. Fax resume to 234-9796

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1 Architect. Degree required. 5 yrs exp. Utility residential design ACAD v2011. Send resume to P.O. Box 505339

EMPLOYMENT

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1 Sales Representative-With 6 months experience in direct selling of fish, minimum salary. Send resume to SFC P.O. Box 10005 Saipan, MP 96950

1–Accountant. $5.05-12.69/hr. Bachelor's Degree in accounting. 5 yrs working experience. Bring resume to Saipan Community School in Susupe.

1-School bldg maint./repairer. $5.05-8.08/hr. 5yrs experience. College or HS graduate. Bring resume to Saipan Community School in Susupe.

Oprtns Manager $10.00/hr. w/ 5 yrs exp. Excellent knwldg & skills, responsible for the daily oprtns & bldg maint. Do cost estimation & preparation of proposal & negotiation w/ clients.
Construction/Maint. $5.05/hr. w/ 3 yrs exp. Extensive knwldg in masonry, plumbing, electrical & carpentry. Can read blueprint & can work w/o supervision. Able to lift heavy blocks & flexible in work sched. Send resume to maniacop_lydia@yahoo.com. GMA Corp. dba NMI Contructor.

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

TEACHING POSITIONS
- High School Advanced Placement English and Math
- High School Science (Physics and Chemistry)
- High School Mandarin

STAFF POSITIONS
- Office Manager
- General Cleaner

If interested bring resume and police clearance to Saipan International Schools. No telephone calls please.

POLARIS DEVELOPMENT CORP. is looking for:

- **CARPENTER (3 positions)** - With background and experience in structural construction, in plumbing & masonry.
- **ALL AROUND BEAUTICIAN (6 positions)** - Must have knowledge in all services provided in a Salon
- **MASSEUSE (3 positions)**
- **BOOK KEEPER (1 position)** - with Bachelor degree in Accounting and with background in financial preparation.

All applicants must have at least 2 years experience and must have excellent knowledge and skills on the category they are applying for.

APPLY IN PERSON AND BRING RESUME

"Any applicant tentatively selected for these positions are required to submit and pass a drug test screening prior to employment."

For more info please call Ms. Jojo Faller at 235-5599, 483-1971 or 285-0019.

WANTED AVON REPRESENTATIVE
and earn up to 20% to 50% commission. Please call Ms. Jojo Faller at 323-4455 or 483-1971.

IP&E Mariana Acquisition Corporation
dba IP&E Saipan

IP&E Saipan is accepting applications for the following positions:

Accountant
Qualifications: minimum 10 years of practical experience in the application of accounting practices.

Business Support Assistant
Qualifications: minimum 5 years accounting experience in the application of accounting practices.

Dispatcher
Qualifications: minimum 5 years experience in dispatch and effective scheduling.

Terminal Operator
Qualifications: minimum 5 years experience in petroleum pump operations.

Tanker Driver
Qualifications: minimum 5 years experience in hauling of fuel and/or operating heavy goods vehicles.

Qualified and interested candidates may apply at IP&E Saipan, located at the Puerto Rico Terminal Office location on Industrial Drive. Applications will be accepted through Monday, October 10, 2011.

IP&E Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY, INC.
is looking for:

Nurse Supervisor (1 position) - $15.00 - $18.00 an hour
- Must pass NCLEX-RN and current CNMI RN License.
- Attended a hemodialysis training program and management of hemodialysis inpatient and outpatient care.
- Must hold a degree in Bachelor of Science in Nursing.
- At least four years hemodialysis experience and plus three years as a charge nurse in dialysis.
- English Language skills-Proficient in verbal, written and comprehension.
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.
- Certified Nephrology Nurse-(CNN) Preferred.
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine.
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system.
- Flexible with time schedule

Registered Nurse (5 positions) - $10.00 - $15.00 an hour
- Must pass NCLEX-RN and current CNMI RN License.
- Attended a hemodialysis training program.
- Must hold a degree in Bachelor of Science in Nursing.
- One to five years hemodialysis experience or related field.
- English Language skills-Proficient in verbal, written and comprehension.
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.
- Certified nephrology Nurse (CNN)-Preferred.
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine.
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system.

Licensed Practical Nurse (1 position) - $7.00 – 9.00 an hour
- Must pass NCLEX-RN and current CNMI LPN License.
- Attended a hemodialysis training program.
- One to four years hemodialysis experience or related field.
- English Language skills-Proficient in verbal, written and comprehension.
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine.
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system.

Hemodialysis Technician (7 positions) - $7.00 - $9.00 an hour
- Certificate from a Junior College/Technical school in health care related field
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- Three years hemodialysis experience-preferred
- Must be CCHT certified by the Nephrology Nursing Certification Commission
- English Language skills-Proficient in verbal, written and comprehension.
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine.
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system.

Building Maintenance & Repair (2 positions) - $7.00 - $9.00 an hour
- Performs a variety of preventive maintenance and repair tasks on the facilities equipment, including some of the more complex repair tasks.
- Performs preventive maintenance and makes routine repairs to electrical, plumbing, and security systems, solar panel maintenance and construction and with solectra inverter experience.
- Performs rough and finish carpentry work and takes the lead on projects such as building and paneling walls and partitions.
- Maintains and repairs various equipment.
- High school graduate or equivalent.
- Prefer skills training in electrical, plumbing and other building trades areas.
- Extensive work experience with hemodialysis/maintenance/plumbing & construction is required.
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine.
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system.
- Must have a valid driver's license.

Water Treatment Technician (2 positions) - $6.00 - $8.00 an hour
- The water treatment technician must be able to perform a number of tasks which may at first glance not appear difficult but require a high degree of knowledge and experience to properly operate and maintain the system. The ideal employee will posses:
- Operational knowledge of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems
- Knowledge of the theory of fluid dynamics
- Understand the mathematical relationships and common formulas of basic water treatment and distribution systems.
- Know the specific operations of the water treatment and distribution systems unique to a dialysis unit.
- Be familiar with infection control of hemodialysis facilities.
- Be familiar with the safety and life safety policies.
- Pass the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency test for certified water treatment and distribution operators level II preferred.
- Understand the plumbing code and plumbing and hemodialysis techniques.
- Be able to demonstrate safe working techniques for working with electricity.
- Be able to demonstrate safe working techniques for working with pressure vessels for hemodialysis.
- Be able to demonstrate proper plumbing and hemodialysis techniques especially when working with pvc.
- Extensive experience of disposal of hazard waste per protocol.
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine.
  Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system.
- Solar panel maintenance/construction with solectra inverter experience.
- To accept and perform all other duties as may be assigned.

Interested applicants must submit applications or resume to
Saint Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc. *at Chalan Kiya, Saipan.*

D&Q Saipan Co., Ltd is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

BOOKKEEPER

Associate's Degree in Accounting and a minimum of 2 years experience in general accounting procedures with emphasis in accounts receivables & payables are required. Must possess work-related skill, knowledge & experience in purchasing, inventory and bank reconciliation. Proficient in various computer software: MS Excel, Word, Outlook and ACCPAC/SBT or similar accounting systems

HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Associate's Degree in Sales & Marketing or a minimum of 3 years work related experience are required. Preferably with F&B/restaurant operations and menu preparation experience. Ability to speak Mandarin, Cantonese, Nihonngo or Korean language will be advantage. A valid driver's license is required along with a clean driving record. Availability to work on evenings, holidays and weekends is also required.

Interested applicants must have their own reliable transportation. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification and experience.

Interested applicants must submit their application and/or resume at our Saipan office located in the C.T.S.I. building, Lower Base, by October 14, 2011. Applications may also be sent to: maxk@pticom.com. The successful applicant will be required to provide a police clearance.

D&Q is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment. Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
JC MARKETING, INC. (SAIPAN)

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE (MEDICAL/CONSUMER)

College Graduate or High School Diploma with 4 years work related experience required. Knowledge on Medical and Consumer products. Computer Literate. Ability to discuss short-term and long term expansion solutions to top management. Ability to establish good relationship with clients/customers; resolve clients problems and complaints. Ability to provide creative ideas for the development of new products. Knowledge in updating website for introducing and promoting products to potential customers. Ability to research medical products and prepare proposals. Be able to negotiate with vendor or potential sources. Must have reliable transportation, driver license and health certificate.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE (MEDICAL/INDUSTRIAL)

College Graduate or High School Diploma with 4 years work related experience required. Knowledge on Medical and Industrial products. Computer Literate. Ability to discuss short-term and long term expansion solutions to top management. Ability to establish good relationship with clients/customers; resolve clients problems and complaints. Ability to provide creative ideas for the development of new products. Ability to research medical and industrial products and prepare proposals. Be able to negotiate with vendor or potential sources. Must have reliable transportation, driver license and health certificate.

ACCOUNTING/ADMINISTRATION ASSOCIATE

Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration or Accounting with 4 years work related experience required. Excellent in numbers, calculations, accounting principles, practices and procedures as well as office record keeping practices and methods, inventory management; proficient in accounting/inventory software and advanced knowledge in Microsoft office tools. Assumes responsibility for effectively researching, tracking and resolving accounting or documentation problems and discrepancies; reconcile business partners accounts; possess problem solving abilities and able to work under time constraints. Able to support Development Associate in research and product costing.

DELIVERY PERSON

High School Diploma with 4 year work related experience required. Capable of lifting, transferring and moving heavy load; ability to operate forklift. Able to perform standard warehousing and merchandising duties if needed like loading and unloading orders, stocking inventory, maintaining warehouse, vehicles and warehouse equipment for the purpose of ensuring safe operation of vehicle. Knowledge on basic math; read and follow instructions; understand multi-step written and oral instructions. Performed other duties as needed. Possess valid driver license and health certificate.

Interested applicants must submit resume via email at adminspn@jcmarketinginc.com or fax at 235-6336.
Current Police Clearance must be submitted together with resume.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(3) REGISTERED NURSES
- Must pass NCLEX with current CNMI RN License
- At least two to five years experience or related field
- Must hold a degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- English Language skills- Proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

(1)FRONT OFFICE MANAGER
- At least over five years experience in medical billing, electronic health records and practice partner record (or related field) please delete
- English language skills - Proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
- College Graduate
- Must be familiar with medical terminology, ICD 9, coding of medical procedure and diagnosis
- Must be certified pharmacy technician
- Must be proficient in computer skills, spread sheet and general accounting skills.

(1)HEALTHCARE CLINIC SYSTEM MANAGER
- A minimum of two to four years of work-related skill, knowledge, or experience.
- Bachelor's degree, or equivalent
- Maintains specialized computer programs relating to health care operations (medical billing, patient records, scheduler)
- Maintains all of company's computers systems to include computer hardware, computer software, computer network and advance server skills.
- Oversees medical billing department utilizing specialized computer software.
- Oversees administrative areas and designs, develops and maintains a paperless computer system.
- Building maintenance repair, electronic record and prescription with meaningful use in compliance with medical and Medicaid standards.
- Performs such other duties as may be assigned.

(1)ULTRASOUND/X-RAY TECHNICIAN
- At least five years experience or related field
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Technology
- Must be over five years experience in electronic health and practice partner records
- Experience/Knowledge with Practice Partner software in electronic health records usage.
- Licensed by the Medical Profession Licensing Board, CNMI

(2)CLINIC/YARD MAINTENANCE
- Preferred skills and experience
- Buidling construction/Renovation experience
- Experience solar maintenance pv models
- Must have a valid CNMI drivers license
- Must be flexible with time schedule

Please submit applications or resume to Health Professional Corporation dba Saipan Health Clinic at Chalan Kiya, Saipan.

Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School

Is requesting applicants for:

Accountant / Business Manager (1)
- Minimum 5 years experience in Seventh-day Adventist School;
- Minimum 5 years experience in a managerial capacity;
- Bachelor's degree in accounting;
- Must be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;
- Must be willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures;
- Knowledge in Quickbooks accounting software preferred;
- Minimum 2 years work experience in a Christian school;

Elementary Teachers (2)
- Bachelor's degree required;
- Prefer 2 years elementary teaching experience;
- Professional teacher certification preferred;
- Emphasis in English and / or emphasis in Mathematics;
- Must be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;
- Must be willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures;
- Minimum 2 years teaching experience in a Christian school

Pre-School Teachers (3)
- Bachelor's degree required;
- 2 Years of early childhood teaching experience required;
- Must be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;
- Must be willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures;
- Minimum 2 years teaching experience in a Christian school

Pre-School Assistant Teacher
- Minimum 2 Years of college required;
- 2 Years of early childhood classroom teaching experience required;
- Must be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;
- Must be willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures;

Interested applicants may contact Michael Berglund via email at principal@saipansdaschool.org

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CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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NBA talks break down over money, games in jeopardy

NEW YORK (AP)—Commissioner David Stern floated it as an idea more than a firm proposal: a 50-50 revenue split.

Even so, the union's reply was unequivocal.

"They said, 'We can't do it.'" according to Stern.

And with that, the remainder of the preseason was lost and the first two weeks of the regular season moved to the brink of cancellation.

The NBA shelved the rest of its exhibition schedule Tuesday and will wipe out the first two weeks of the regular season if there is no labor agreement by Monday.

"We were not able to make the progress that we hoped we could make and we were not able to continue the negotiations," Stern said after nearly four hours of talks between owners and players ended without gaining ground on a new deal.

No further meetings are scheduled, making it even more likely the league will lose games to a work stoppage for the first time since 1998-99, when the season was reduced to 50 games.

Stern and Deputy Commissioner Adam Silver said owners offered players a 50-50 split of basketball-related income. That's below the 57 percent that players were guaranteed under the previous collective bargaining agreement, but more than the 47 percent union officials said was formally proposed to them.

The only numbers that matter now, however, are the millions that stand to be lost when arenas go dark.

"The damage will be enormous," Silver said.

Players had offered to reduce their BRI guarantee to 53 percent, which they said would have given owners back more than $1 billion over six years. They say they won't cut it further, at least for now.

And they insist the 50-50 concept wasn't an even split, because it would have come after the league had already deducted $350 million off the top.

"Today was not the day for us to get this done," players' association president Derek Fisher said. "We were not able to get close enough to close the gap."

With superstars like Kobe Bryant, Paul Pierce and Kevin Garnett standing behind him, union executive director Billy Hunter said the players' proposal would have made up at least $200 million per season—a sizable chunk of the $300 million owners said they lost last season.

"Our guys have indicated a willingness to lose games," Hunter said.

The sides are also still divided on the salary-cap structure.

Training camps were postponed and 43 preseason games scheduled for Oct. 9-15 were canceled on Sept. 24. Both sides said they felt pressure to work toward a deal with deadlines looming before more cancellations would be necessary.

Stern said the owners had removed their demand for a hard salary cap, were no longer insisting on salary rollbacks, and would have given players the right to opt out of a 10-year agreement after seven years. But the money split was always going to be the biggest hurdle in these negotiations, with owners insistent on the ability to turn a profit after the league said 22 of its 30 teams lost money last season.

"We want to and have been willing to negotiate, but we find ourselves at a point today where we in some ways anticipated or expected to be, faced with a lockout that may jeopardize portions if not all of our season," Fisher said.

After hardly budging off their original proposal for 1 1/2 years, owners finally increased their offer to players from 46 to 47 percent of BRI. It was then that the top negotiators discussed the 50-50 concept, and while Stern sounded disappointed that it didn't work, Silver was more frustrated.

"I am not going to get a good night sleep," he said. "After this afternoon's session, I would say I'm personally very disappointed. I thought that we should have continued negotiating today and I thought that there was potentially common ground on a 50-50 deal. I think it makes sense, it sounds like a partnership. There still would have been a lot of negotiating to do on the system elements, but I'm personally very disappointed."

On what both sides stressed was an important day, the owners' entire 11-man labor relations committee came to New York to meet with 11 players. They could still work something out before Monday's deadline, but neither side sounded optimistic.

"Right now, we had our committees, we gave it a really good run, and it didn't work," Stern said.

Hunter said the union would hold regional meetings with its players, set up workout centers and help in other ways. And many players—including Bryant, who has been in talks with an Italian team—will have to decide if they want to explore playing overseas.

And without a deal, the battle could go to the courts. Hunter said the union would have to consider decertification, and on Tuesday a federal court judge scheduled a hearing for Nov. 2 to hear arguments in the league's lawsuit against the players seeking a declaration that the lockout doesn't violate antitrust laws.

All things both sides hoped to avoid Tuesday.

"It wasn't to be, and we don't have any plans right now," Stern said.

AP

Derek Fisher, center, President of the National Basketball Player's Association, and Billy Hunter, right, the Executive Director of the National Basketball Player's Association, hold a press conference following labor talks between NBA players and owners on Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2011 in New York.

Roethlisberger OK, Harrison needs eye surgery

PITTSBURGH (AP)—Ben Roethlisberger's sprained left foot might be the least of the Pittsburgh Steelers' problems.

Coach Mike Tomlin expects his quarterback to play on Sunday when the struggling defending AFC champions host Tennessee (3-1).

The same can't be said for linebacker James Harrison, who needs surgery to repair a fractured orbital bone near his right eye and will be out "for a number of weeks."

Harrison sustained the injury in the third quarter of Pittsburgh's 17-10 loss to Houston last week when the forepad in his helmet came down and struck him in the eye as he collided with a Texans player.

The 2008 NFL Defensive Player of the Year returned to the game, but was ineffective at times as Houston drove the length of the field to score the winning touchdown.

The 33-year-old groused the Steelers (2-2) "stink" afterward but gave no indication of significant damage. Tomlin indicated he won't know how long Harrison will be out until after the surgery.

"I told y'all it's wasn't a concussion!! Lol I'll be ok in time," Harrison tweeted on Tuesday shortly after the announcement.

The Steelers will slide Lawrence Timmons over from his inside linebacker spot to replace Harrison and start veteran reserve Larry Foote in Timmons' place.

Not exactly the way the Steelers wanted to start a pivotal stretch. They have been manhandled in losses to Baltimore and Houston and were relatively unimpressive in wins over woeful Indianapolis and Seattle.

Tomlin stressed the need to return to fundamentals after his team allowed Houston's Arian Foster to rack up 155 yards, the most the team has surrendered to a single back in nearly eight years.

Getting back to basics while putting familiar faces in somewhat unfamiliar places will be difficult, though the defensive line should get a jolt from nose tackle Brett Keisel.

The veteran is expected to play after missing the past two weeks with a knee injury. Yet Tomlin isn't hailing Keisel's presence as reason to think the defense's problems stopping the run are over.

"We have capable men who play who need to do a better job," Tomlin said.

And do it better quickly.

The Steelers are second in the league in yards allowed but are 22nd against the run, giving up a whopping 4.8 yards per carry, well above the 3.0 yards per attempt they gave up last season.

"There's a fine line between performing well and substandard," Tomlin said.

"Some of the mistakes are mental, some of them are physical. They're not centrally located in one person or position but when you add those things over the course of a football game you get 8-10 snaps where somebody is letting you down either mentally or physically and you have an opportunity to give up some big yards."

It's the kind of opportunities the offense hoped it would have this season. It hasn't happened. Roethlisberger has thrown three touchdowns and five interceptions and endured a pounding from opposing defenses in the process.

The battered offensive line could take a step toward normalcy if left tackle Jonathan Scott and right guard Doug Legursky return from a shoulder injury.

They'll be charged with providing better protection for Roethlisberger, who injured his left foot on Pittsburgh's penultimate drive.

He stayed in the game but wore a protective boot afterward. An MRI on Monday showed no breaks, though he may be limited in practice early in the week.

Backup Charlie Batch will get a package of plays just in case Roethlisberger suffers a setback, but he played the second half of last season with a fractured right foot and had no major issues.

Whoever is on the field, at any position, will need to respond with the kind of spirited performance the team has lacked at times during the first month of the season.

Still, Tomlin stressed it's the first month. The Steelers are concerned, but not panicked.

"We are not going to make something out of this that it's not," Tomlin said. "We understand that we are capable of playing better. We expect to play better. We know where the solutions lie, of course within us, and how we prepare and ultimately how we perform."

Rangers through; Yankees, Phillies, DBacks win

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—This is what Adrian Beltre envisioned when he signed with Texas in the offseason. Balls jumping off his bat in October, the Rangers making another run for the pennant.

Beltre hit three straight home runs and the defending AL champions advanced again, beating the Tampa Bay Rays 4-3 in Game 4 Tuesday to win their playoff matchup.

Beltre put on a power show that few players in major league history have matched, helping Texas take the best-of-five series and ending the Rays' remarkable run to the wild-card spot. The Rangers next play the Detroit Tigers-New York Yankees winner.

"From my point of view, Texas gave me the best chance to put a ring on my finger," Beltre added, "and I am just two steps away from it. Hopefully that happens."

Ian Kinsler led off the game for Texas by homering on the second pitch from rookie Jeremy Hellickson.

Then it was Beltre's turn. He came into the game in an 1-for-11 slump in this series before breaking loose.

Maybe Beltre's best day as a pro.

"I think besides my first big league hit, this is right up there," said the slugger, who spent last season with the Boston Red Sox. He's back in the postseason for the first time since 2004, when he was with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

It was the seventh time a player has homered three times in a postseason game—Adam Kennedy was the last to do it, for the Angels in 2002. Babe Ruth did it twice, while Reggie Jackson, George Brett and Bob Robertson also are on the list.

Beltre connected in his first three at-bats. Given a chance to tie the big league record of four homers in a game, he hit a routine flyout in the eighth against Wade Davis.

"I was just trying to get a run there. Hit a line drive somewhere, maybe in the gap because they were trying to come back. ... Winning the game was more important for me than to hit the (fourth) homer," Beltre said.

Neftali Feliz gave up a run in the ninth inning before closing for his third save of the series, preserving the victory for Matt Harrison.

Texas won for the fifth straight time on the road overall—all at Tropicana Field—in the opening round. The Rangers eliminated Tampa Bay in five games last year, winning three times in the Rays' home stadium.

Beltre hit solo shots off Hellickson in the second and fourth innings, and added another solo drive against Game 1 winner Matt Moore in the seventh.

The Rays weren't the only ones who had trouble keeping up with Beltre—a television cameraman trying to run alongside Beltre to capture the image as the star jogged home did a face-first pratfall.

Beltre and Kinsler tied for the team lead with 32 homers, and Beltre had been on a late-season tear going into the playoffs. The Rangers finished with just six hits in the clincher.

Texas reached the World Series for the first time last year, but lost to San Francisco.

Down 2-0 early, the Rays literally rammed their way back into the game.

Sean Rodriguez drew a one-out walk in the second and took off when Matt Joyce lined a two-out double to the gap in right-center field. Rodriguez barreled around third base and plowed into catcher Mike Napoli, jarring the ball loose. Rodriguez knocked Napoli backward, scrambled to his feet and touched the plate with his hand.

It was the second plate collision in the playoffs this year. St. Louis' Jon Jay ran over Philadelphia's Carlos Ruiz in an unsuccessful attempt to score during Game 2 of the Cardinals' matchup against the Phillies.

Manager Ron Washington and the Rangers trainer left the dugout to check on the woozy Napoli, who remained in the game. Napoli got more attention in-between innings and stayed in the lineup.

The play energized the crowd of 28,299, about 4,000 less than Monday night, which was announced as a sellout. But several innings later, the Rays' season was over.

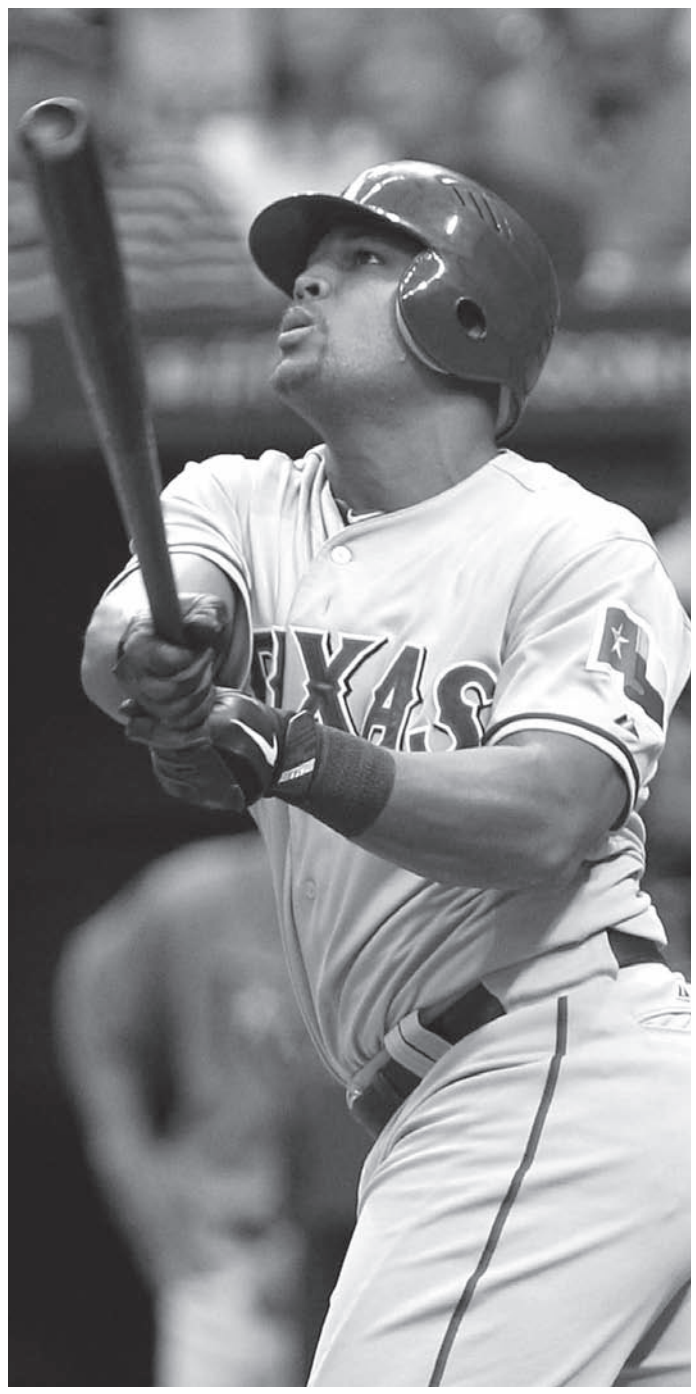
Rodriguez scored all three runs for the Rays. He drew a one-out walk and scored on Casey Kotchman's single in the ninth, but Feliz retired the next two batters.

"It's huge, but we've still got a lot on our minds," said Ranger pitcher Derek Holland, who won Game 2 in Arlington and worked 1 1-3 scoreless innings in relief in the clincher. "We want to win the whole thing, and that's what we're going to try to do from here."

Tampa Bay certainly gave its faithful, and fans everywhere, quite a ride in the final month. Manager Joe Maddon's team overcame a nine-game deficit against Boston in the wild-card standings, then rallied from seven runs to beat the Yankees on the last day of the regular season to reach the playoffs for the third time in four years despite a small payroll.

"It's sour the way it ended. You feel like you have done more. We really, really have nothing to hang our heads about," said Evan Longoria, whose 12th-inning homer beat the Yankees and put the Rays in the postseason.

"We had our opportunities. Our bullpen and starting pitchers gave us a chance," he added. "It came down to offensively not getting it done."



AP

Texas Rangers third baseman Adrian Beltre (29) hits his third home run of the game in the seventh inning against the Tampa Bay Rays, during Game 4 of baseball's American League division series Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2011, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Harrison, who made a relief appearance in the Rangers' loss in the series opener, pitched five innings and won in his first postseason start. The Texas bullpen took over after that.

Texas' five consecutive division series road wins matches the second-longest streak in big league history. The Atlanta Braves won a record eight straight from 1995-99 and the Yankees won five in a row from 2003-05.

Moore stymied the powerful Texas lineup by working seven scoreless inning in the opener at Arlington. The Rays brought him on again in hopes of holding the Rangers to a 3-2 lead, and it looked like the move might work. The 22-year-old lefty retired the first six batters he faced before Beltre led off the seventh with an opposite-field shot into the stands in right.

"It's always painful, especially being around the league for this long," said Rays designated hitter Johnny Damon, finishing his 17th season. "We had a good enough team to win, and keep on winning. It just seemed Texas definitely had our number."

Yankees 10, Tigers 1

In Detroit, maligned pitcher A.J. Burnett came through when New York needed him most, leading the Yankees to a victory that squared the AL Division Series against Detroit at 2-2.

The Yankees didn't plan to start Burnett in this series, but they didn't have much of a choice after Game 1 took two days to finish. So they sent the erratic right-hander to the mound, hoping for the best.

New York's worst fears appeared to be coming true in the first. The Yankees' bullpen was already stirring when Burnett walked three hitters, one intentionally, to bring up Don Kelly with two outs and the bases loaded.

Kelly hit a hard line drive to center field. Curtis Granderson appeared to misjudge the ball at first before backing up and jumping at the last moment to take the catch, robbing Kelly of an extra-base hit and the Tigers of multiple runs.

Instead it was New York that took the lead in the third inning. Detroit starter Rick Porcello hit Jorge Posada with a pitch to start the inning and Russell Martin followed with a single. After a strikeout, Derek Jeter hit a drive to deep center that speedy Austin Jackson wasn't able to run down.

Both runners scored on the double to give New York a 2-0 lead, and Jeter made up for striking out with the potential tying run on base, ending Game 3.

Burnett allowed Victor Martinez's leadoff homer in the fourth, cutting the Yankees lead to 2-1. One out later, Peralta doubled down the left-field line, but Burnett got two strikeouts to end the inning.

Martin and Brett Gardner led off the fifth with singles for the Yankees. After Jeter bunted into a force play at third, Granderson doubled to right, driving in a run. Alex Rodriguez added a sacrifice fly to make it 4-1 to the visitors.

Granderson, who was on the Detroit team that went to the World Series in 2006 before being traded to New York, has hit 41 homers this season but on Tuesday he made his biggest impact with his glove.

He took another key catch in the sixth when Jhonny Peralta hit a fly to left-center. Granderson sprinted over and made a diving catch even more impressive than the first one, sliding across the outfield grass on his belly after making the grab. He appeared momentarily shaken by the dive, but stayed in the game.

The Yankees, who had lost five straight postseason road games when facing elimination, broke it open with six runs in the eighth. Detroit reliever Al Alburquerque balked in a run, and the Yankees added two more on singles by Jesus Montero and Gardner.

Daniel Schlereth allowed a run later in the inning when his wild pitch bounced all the way over the screen, and Robinson Cano's two-run single sent fans at Comerica Park toward the exits.

Game 5 is Thursday in New York. New York's rookie Ivan Nova, who shut down the Tigers in the opener, is expected to start against Doug Fister.

Phillies 3, Cardinals 2

In St. Louis, pinch-hitter Ben Francisco hit a three-run homer in the seventh inning and Philadelphia hung on to edge St. Louis and take a 2-1 lead in their National League Division Series.

Francisco came in for pitcher Cole Hamels and broke open a scoreless game with a two-out shot.

Phillies closer Ryan Madson earned his first multi-inning save of the year. He came in and got Allen Craig to sharply ground into a double play with the bases loaded to escape in the eighth, then worked around Yadier Molina's RBI single in the ninth.

The Phillies, favorites to win the World Series after a franchise-record 102-win season, can finish off the wild-card Cardinals in Game 4 Wednesday, with Roy Oswalt opposing St. Louis' Edwin Jackson.

Francisco's shot off Cardinals starter Jaime Garcia was only his second hit in 19 at-bats in the postseason.

"I knew the way the game was going I was probably going to be in there to pinch-hit off a lefty," Francisco said. "Got up there with a runner in scoring position, I was just trying to get a hit up the middle and he left one up and luckily it got out of here."

Hamels struck out eight in six scoreless innings. He's a franchise-best 7-4 in the postseason with a 3.09 ERA.

The Cardinals frustrated a season-high crowd of 46,914, stranding 14 runners. They set a National League record with 169 double play balls this season.

Albert Pujols and Ryan Theriot had four hits apiece for St. Louis, the heavy underdog wild-card winners who had runners in scoring position in six innings. They came up empty despite three hits in the eighth, including a pinch-hit single by Matt Holliday in only his second appearance of the series.

Diamondbacks 8, Brewers 1

In Phoenix, Paul Goldschmidt hit a grand slam and tied a franchise postseason record with five RBIs as Arizona cruised past Milwaukee, staying alive in the NL Division Series.

Fellow Arizona rookie Josh Collmenter befuddled Milwaukee batters again was his peculiar pitching style as the Diamondbacks cut the deficit in the series to 2-1.

Willie Bloomquist led off Arizona's first with a single, then swiped second for his third steal of the series. After two outs, Miguel Montero hit a shot deep to center. Nyjer Morgan slammed back-first into the wall but couldn't grab the ball as it bounced free, allowing Bloomquist to score. Goldschmidt followed with an opposite-field RBI single.

Corey Hart hit a leadoff homer for the Brewers in the top of the third to cut the gap to 2-1 but Montero hit an RBI single for Arizona in the bottom of the inning to restore the two-run lead.

Montero's success early in the game led to the fateful decision to intentionally walk him ahead of Goldschmidt in the fifth, loading the bases. With the count 1-2, Goldschmidt got just enough of Sean Marcum's pitch, hitting a homer that barely cleared the right-field fence, giving the hosts a 7-1 lead.

Collmenter was chosen by manager Kirk Gibson over veteran lefty Joe Saunders to start, and he did not allow a hit after Hart's home run, retiring 15 of his last 16 batters.

Milwaukee leads the best-of-five 2-1. Game 4 is Wednesday night in Phoenix.

Celebrity coming alive in A Division

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Oleai Beach Bar & Grill's Celebrity gained a game on A Division frontrunner Mixed Blood Shooters 1, of D'Pirates Bar & Grill, after the conclusion of last Monday's Saipan Electronic Dart Association matchups.

Meanwhile, D'Pirates' Try Luck was upset by Joe's Bar & Grill's Just Like That, 7-8, in the Ladies League, but remained in firm control over the field.

Celebrity came from behind to best the Trouble Shooters (58-78), 9-8, on the road at Wild Bill's Bar & Grill and pulled within a game behind top-ranked Mixed Blood 1 with an overall win-loss record of 82-54.

Celebrity fell behind early, 1-5, but recovered by sweeping all four singles sniper matches. As both teams traded wins back and forth the game came down to the final Team 1001 Cherry In/Double 1 Out.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Oleai Beach Bar & Grill's Celebrity came from behind to overcome Wild Bill's Bar & Grill's Trouble Shooters on the road last Monday to pull within a game behind first place in SEDA's A Division.

Mixed Blood 1 endured an upset at home to Naked Fish Bar & Grill's Naked Fish Boyz (67-69), 8-9.

In other results, D'Pirates' Bud Brothers (81-55) downed sister team Predators (69-67), 13-4, in an away draw; Oleai Proofers (71-65) defeated sister team Primos (53-83), 10-7, in a home draw; and Ali'i Kamote's (69-67) dropped Bar Gaia's Gaiana-A, 13-4, at home.

Notably, Bud Brothers' Romuel Chavez marked a 160 High In and Naked Fish Boyz's James Tudela posted a 117 High Out.

Try Luck endured its first loss of the season, but still holds a stout 14-game lead over its nearest rival with a 97-23 slate.

Third-ranked Just Like That improved to a 59-61 record.

Second fiddle, Man Amigas (83-37) gained some ground from a swift 12-3 victory over Jonny's Bar 7 Grill's Island Girls (46-74) at home in Oleai; and Joe's Daffodils (37-83) blossomed to a 11-4 rout of D'Pirates Star magic (38-82), on the road and almost passed its rival out of last place.

Notables include a 152 High In by Man-Amigas' Rita Fitial and a 118 High Out by Try Luck's Aida Laniyo.

Team CUC keeps lead

In the Inter-Government League, Jonny's Bar & Grill's Team CUC maintained the top spot after Friday's matchups.

Team CUC brushed off sister team NMC Proa (25-80), 10-5, in a road draw at Jonny's to improve to 77-28.

Second place AG's Sakude! edged sister team DYS Atdit (63-42), 8-7, in an away draw at Oleai Beach Bar & Grill; Sakude trails CUC by eight games.

Meanwhile, Wild Bill's Bar & Grill's DPW Troubleshooters (39-66) upset Jonny's DPS Enforcers (42-63), 10-5, on the road.

Notables include a 160 High In by Sakude's Jayson John and a 170 High out by DYS Atdit's Julian Camacho.

The season continues this Friday with Team CUC visiting DYS Atdit at Jonny's; Sakude hosting the Enforcers at Oleai; and the Troubleshooters welcoming NMC Proa at Wild Bill's.

Boys HS volleyball tips off on Oct. 12

Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization announced that the start up dates for its boys volleyball season has been postponed and is set to commence on Oct. 12 at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Six teams make up this year's boys volleyball field, which is scheduled to place from 4pm to 6pm Wednesday next week.

According to the game schedule, the opening matchups will feature Grace Christian Academy Eagles taking on MHS 1 on the north end, while MHS 2 takes on Saipan Southern High School on the south court at 4pm.

Then at 5pm, Saipan International School meets Kagman High School on the north side with both MHS squads battling it out on the south end.

Following Wednesday's opener, game dates are scheduled for Mondays and Wednesdays throughout October leading up to its postseason tournament scheduled from Nov. 8 to 10.

Notably, two teams will take turns pulling double duty in rotation per game date.

The KHS Ayuyus are the three-time defending champions and will be looking to make it four in a row. Last year, they swept MHS 1 in the best-of-three finals, 25-12, 25-18.

All games will be held at the MHS Gym. ***(Walter Cepeda Sutherland)***

Four 8-ball wins in a row for Cepeda

Patrick Cepeda ran his winning streak to four consecutive weeks when he took Sunday's 19th Hole Happy Hour 8-Ball Tournament championship.

Cepeda moved to the top of the winners bracket with wins over Norman Tenorio, Luis Aldan, and Taylor Watanabe. Watanabe bested Ken Phillips and Ben Cepeda before losing to Patrick Cepeda.

Phillips came back through the loser's bracket, eliminating Aldan, Ben Cepeda, and Watanabe. He couldn't get past Cepeda and had to settle for second place.

The Sunday tournament is a double elimination following Billiards Congress of America rules, with sign-up starting at 4pm. The entry fee is only $5.

Thursday is set aside for 9-ball, with sign-up starting at 7pm. There is a $10 entry fee.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From right, champion Patrick Cepeda, second place Ken Phillips, and fourth place Ben Cepeda pose after the 19th Hole Happy Hour 8-Ball Tournament.

The single elimination tournament is a race-to-two, but experienced 9-ball players must win additional games—as determined by management— to advance.

Saturday is for dart players, with a blind draw, double-elimination tournament starting at 7:30pm.

First, second, and third place finishers in all contests take home trophies and split the pot.

The contests are held at 19th Hole, located in Lower Navy Hill. Coming from Garapan, it is just before you get to the Bank of Hawaii traffic light, past Grand Market and before Jane's Barbecue.

Players can warm up with an ice-cold bucket of beer for $10 from 3pm to 7pm. Beer in cans are only $2.50 after 7pm. ***(PR)***

ALI'I

From Page 28

Mangali canned his second free throw that tied the game at 77-all. Esdrelon threw one long heave from the baseline and a sprinting Barrios picked up the ball and went up for the basket.

VisMinda contended that Barrios dribbled the ball first before making the finger roll. However, White saw otherwise as after Esdrelon's heave, the ball bounced twice and with Barrios' hands near the leather, it appeared the latter dribbled, but did not.

VisMinda coach Marlon Sison said in a text message to *Saipan Tribune* that they will protest the game. As of press time, league coordinator Bong Malasarte said they have yet to receive a formal protest letter from VisMinda.

According to the UFO caging ground rules, a protest must be filed within 24 hours after the game and a $250 bond must be made. The deadline should have lapsed at 10pm last night.

As for White, the game was not under protest after VisMinda failed to follow FIBA rules for filing a protest. FIBA's protest procedures call for the team captain to inform the referee that his squad is protesting the result of the match immediately after the game and sign the scoresheet in the space marked "captain signature in case of protest."

It was VisMinda assistant coach Rey Perez who wrote the word protest but he did it at the back of the scoresheet.

VisMinda suffered a heartbreaker despite leading majority of the match. It still had full control of the game at the 5:25 mark of the fourth quarter, 71-61.

Then Ali'i Konflikt came back to their senses and launched an 11-0 run to take the driver's seat for the first time, 72-71. Ali'i Konflikt started the rally with an Ivan Devero's split from the foul line and then big men Edmark Mendoza and Jawn Joyner hit back-to-back triples. Devero also nailed a long jumper to threaten VisMinda, 70-71, and Ali'i Konflikt finally took the upper hand when Barrios connected on his jackknife drive, 72-71, 3:04 left on the clock.

A Rolly Paraiso split tied the match, 72-all, before Esdrelon broke the deadlock with a booming triple, 2:15 remaining in the game. Esdrelon earlier muffed five treys in the fourth quarter before connecting on his sixth attempt.

The two teams traded misses and errors for more than a minute before Glenn Aquino drilled a bank shot down low to move VisMinda within one, 42 seconds to go in the match.

In Ali'i Konflikt's possession, Barrios lost the leather and Joyner gave up a preemptive foul on Mangali, who had a split to tie the game anew, 75-all, 29.6 seconds left in the fourth.

Ali'i Konflikt also went to the stripe in the next play with Sison fouling Esdrelon, who went 1-for-2, giving his team a precarious 76-75 lead, 12.4 seconds to go. Sison tried to regain the lead when he drove hard to the basket, but was covered well by Devero and missed the shot. Joyner collared the rebound, was fouled with 4.0 left on the clock, and had a split, giving Ali'i Konflikt only a two-point lead, 77-75.

VisMinda sued for time and when game resumed Aquino's inbound pass from the sideline intended for Mangali touched no one and went to the baseline. Ali'i Konflikt regained possession, but Barrios again lost the leather, which Mangali picked up. Mangali drove to the basket, was fouled, and drilled the two charities.

After the second free throw, Esdrelon had the presence of mind to throw a long pass and Barrios made up for his earlier booboos by converting the crucial, but controversial shot.

With the win, Ali'i Konflikt will battle Cavite/Andok's in the semis. The other semis pairing that will be played tonight will have undefeated Namfrel/Proa going up against Bayani/Mobil.

MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt 79 – Devero 26, Joyner 21, Esdrelon 12, Barrios 10, Guiab 3, Mendoza 3, Tumaquip 2.

VisMinda/Satbahi 77 – Mangali 16, Manalo 13, Barbo 11, Aquino 10, Inos 7, Sison 6, De Dios 6, Paraiso 3.

Scoring by quarters: 16-20, 27-37, 52-60, 79-77.

MDX

From Page 28

court in Susupe.

League organizers said individuals or companies interested in sponsoring the competition are welcome. They added they are holding games at the Civic Center Basketball Court to jumpstart their plan of improving the facility.

"In the future, we hope we can fix the flooring of the court, improve the goals, and install lights through the help of the members of the business and basketball communities on Saipan," Malasarte said.

LADY

From Page 28

eight markers to go with Roberts' six points as SIS ran away with it in the end.

SIS' defense stuffed KHS to just a pair of baskets in the final period.

Roberts led the field with 22 points, while KHS' Pialug managed 13 markers in the loss.

The season continues tonight at the MHS Gym at 4:30pm with MHS hosting Saipan Southern High School in a junior varsity duel, followed by the varsity pairing at 5:30pm.

SIS 40 – Roberts 22, Jewell 12, Bracken 2, Frink 1, Huokino 1.

KHS 31 – Pialug 13, Dela Cruz 6, Ada 4, Jetley 4, Rasa 4

Scoring by quarters: 13-9, 21-17, 25-27, 40-31.

THEA

From Page 28

that awards Junior ITF ranking points, but lost to No. 5 seed Celine Lenertz of Australia, 1-6, 0-6, right in the first round.

In New Zealand, the Commonwealth netter will have three chances to gain Junior ITF ranking points, starting in Canterbury where she will be pitted against players from Australia and New Zealand. The main draw for the 2012 Canterbury 18 & under ITF Championships will run from Jan. 23 to 28 at the Ashburton Trust Tennis Centre in Ashburton.

From Canterbury, the Saipan Southern High School student will travel to Auckland for the 2012 Auckland 18 and Under ITF Summer Championships that will be held from Jan. 30 to Feb. 4 Minor's last stop will be at Wellington for the Tennis Central 18 and Under ITF Summer Championships that will be played from Feb. 6 to 11.

The CNMI's top girls U18 player will be off-island for more than two months, as she is schedule to leave for Australia in late December to join the Pacific Oceania Touring Team. In the Land Down Under, Minor, along with three other Commonwealth players, will also participate in three competitions and watch a couple of matches in the 2011 Australian Open in Melbourne.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Ali'i Konflikt barges into semis

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt escaped its way to the semifinals of the UFO Inter-Organization Basketball Friendship League 2011 Bud Cup after pulling off a nail-biting 79-77 win over VisMinda/Satbahi on Tuesday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

J.R. Barrios drilled the winning basket in the last .5 second off a perfect inbound pass by Elmer Esdrelon. Ali'i Konflikt players rushed to the court and celebrated the win, while VisMinda cagers approached the referees and table officials, verbally protesting the last-second shot.

VisMinda argued there was no way the basket could have been counted with only .5 second left on the clock.

However, referee Gabriel White stood by his earlier call, citing FIBA rules on the last-second shot. FIBA rules state that "near the end of a period, the game clock must show at least 0:00.3 (three tenths of a second) for a player to secure control of the ball and attempt for a goal. If the clock reads 0:00.2 or 0:00.1, the only legal goal must be made as a result of a tap or an alley-oop dunk.

Barrios' game-saving basket started with Esdrelon going for the inbound play after Eugene

See ALI'I on Page 27

MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt's Jawn Joyner drives against VisMinda/Satbahi's Marlon De Dios during their playoff game in the UFO Bud Cup on Tuesday night at the TSL Sports Complex.
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MDX caging kicks off Sunday

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Sixteen teams will be seeing action in the 2011 MDX Amateur Radio Club Inter-Village Friendship League that will open shop this Sunday at the Civic Center Basketball Court in Susupe.

The MDX caging will feature B level players and also those in the 40-and-above age group.

"We decided to host a league for those who can't play in open division tournaments, such as the UFO league. This league is for recreational players or those who just want to look for weekend activities and stay in shape," said Bong Malasarte, who co-coordinates the league with Leo Canedo.

"We also chose to name the participating squads after the villages to recognize the villages on Saipan. It will give teams the pride of representing the different villages here," Malasarte said.

Canedo added teams will be divided into two pools and each group will play in a round-robin format in the regular season and only the Top 4 teams will advance to the crossover playoffs. The playoff round will implement a single-elimination format.

Matches will be played on weekends. Only one game is set every Saturday, while four matches are scheduled every Sunday. The lone Saturday match will start at 3:30pm, while morning games every Sunday are set for 8am and 10am. The afternoon games are scheduled for 2pm and 4pm.

The Top 4 finishers in the league will receive trophies, while organizers will also hand an MVP plum during the awards ceremony.

This Sunday's opening ceremony will start at 2pm and a final meeting for representatives of participating teams is scheduled at 5:30pm this Friday at the pavilion near the basketball

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Lady Geckos take opener over Lady Ayuyus

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Saipan International School's Amber Roberts cashes in on a fast break layup against Kagman High School in Tuesday's MISO Girls High School Basketball season opener at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The Lady Geckos of Saipan International School started their Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization girls high school basketball season with a 40-31 victory over the Kagman High School Lady Ayuyus on Tuesday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Amber Roberts paced SIS with eight points in the opening 10 minutes to help her team build an early 13-9 advantage.

Roberts then added eight more in the second period to single-handedly put SIS ahead, 21-17, at halftime.

KHS' Elilai Pialug mustered seven points for the Lady Ayuyus in the first half.

Pialug led a rally with six points in the third quarter to put the Lady Ayuyus in front by a bucket, 27-25, heading into the fourth and final quarter.

SIS' shooters went cold after the break and were limited to just four points in the period.

SIS' Zoe Jewell then found her rhythm in the clutch with

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RELATED NEWS

■ Boys HS volleyball tips off on Oct. 12

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Thea to join Jr. ITF events in NZ

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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Minor

Thea Minor will resume her search for the elusive Junior ITF ranking points early next year when she competes in three tournaments in New Zealand.

Minor earned another chance to become the first female junior player from the CNMI to get a Junior ITF ranking after receiving an invite to join the Pacific Oceania ITF Team that will travel in New Zealand in January.

"Following the successful Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji in July, Oceania Tennis is pleased to invite a small number of additional players to be members of the Pacific Oceania Team that will play in three ITF world circuit tournaments in New Zealand in late January and early February 2012. ITF is delighted to invite Thea Minor to be a member of the team," Oceania Tennis Federation executive director Patrick O'Rourke said in an invitation letter sent to Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association president Jeff Race last month.

"The tournaments are opportunities for the developing young players from the Pacific to compete in ITF junior world ranking events," the letter added.

The 15-year-old was included on the team after placing fifth in the girls U18 division of the POJC in Lautoka, Fiji in August this year. Minor also joined the Air Pacific Oceania Closed Junior Championships 2011 in Fiji, a grade B2 event

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